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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-94-153
Tuesday
9 August 1994

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-94-153 CONTENTS *9 August 1994*

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

More Speculation on DPRK Demands From U.S. *[YOMIURI SHIMBUN 6 Aug]* 1
PRC's Qian Qichen Views Asia-Pacific Economy *[ZONG HUA RIBAO 27 Jul]* 1

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

ASEAN Agrees To Ban Al-Arqam Movement *[ANTARA]* 2
South Pacific Island Leaders Talk With Taiwan *[Melbourne International]* 2

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Article Urges End to Framework Talks *[NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN 8 Aug]* 3
'No Plans' To Cut Payments to U.S. Forces *[KYODO]* 4
DPRK Said Troubled by Spent Nuclear Fuel Rod *[ASAHI SHIMBUN 8 Aug]* 5
'Secret' Document on Nuclear, Foreign Policies *[MAINICHI SHIMBUN 7 Aug]* 5
Medical Team Leaves for Zaire To Aid Refugees *[KYODO]* 6
NHK News Aired by 104 Radio Stations in Russia *[KYODO]* 6
Kono, Indonesian Minister on Investment, Aid *[KYODO]* 7
Zenno Reportedly Considering Importing Rice *[KYODO]* 7
Kono Scheduled To Visit U.S., South America 7
  Attends 'Quad' Trade Meeting *[KYODO]* 7
  Visits Brazil, Argentina 28 Aug *[TOKYO SHIMBUN 7 Aug]* 7
Murayama Plans Monthly Tours of Local Districts *[YOMIURI SHIMBUN 8 Aug]* 8
Article Describes Politics, Murayama Style *[NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN 7 Aug]* 8
Murayama on Tax Reform Bill, Aid to Rwanda *[KYODO]* 9
SDPJ, DSP Members Moving To Form Coalition *[YOMIURI SHIMBUN 7 Aug]* 10
Komeito Members To Join Planned New Party *[KYODO]* 10
SDPJ To Debate 'Limited Defense' Concept *[MAINICHI SHIMBUN 8 Aug]* 10
Bureaucrat Known as 'Shadow Premier' Portrayed *[TOKYO SHIMBUN 22 Jul]* 11
Editorial on Bureaucrats, Budget Compilation *[ASAHI SHIMBUN 30 Jul]* 14
MITI To Support Users of Solar Energy Systems *[KYODO]* 15
Commentator Questions Public Utility Fee Hikes *[SANKEI SHIMBUN 4 Aug]* 15
Public Works Projects Declines 24.4 Percent *[KYODO]* 16
Ultrafast Freighter To Set Voyage 20 Aug *[KYODO]* 16

North Korea

Results of Third Round of Geneva Talks Reported *[Pyongyang Radio]* 17
Nicaragua Hails Resumption of Talks With U.S. *[KCNA]* 17
Zimbabwe Group Urges ROK Not To Impede Talks *[KCNA]* 17
ROK Minister Criticized for Nuclear Remarks *[KCNA]* 18
ROK Criticized for 'Army Supply Exercise-91' *[KCNA]* 18
Sochongnyon Holds Grand Reunification Festival *[KCNA]* 18
Hanchongnyon Calls Seoul News Conference 5 Aug *[KCNA]* 19
ROK Students Vow To Hold Pannational Rally *[KCNA]* 19
Commentary Denounces ROK for Blocking Rally *[Pyongyang Radio]* 19
  'Fascist Offensive' Alleged *[KCNA]* 20
ROK Groups on Suppression of 'Democratic Forces' *[KCNA]* 20
Pro-Kim Chong-il Placard Said Seen in Kwangju *[KCNA]* 20

- ROK Professors Reportedly Praise Kim Chong-il *[KCNA]* ... 21
- Placard Revering Kim Il-song Displayed in Kwangju *[KCNA]* ... 21
- Hanminjon Officials Visit Kim Il-song Statue *[KCNA]* ... 21
- Relationship Between Mun, Kim Il-song Studied *[AERA 8 Aug]* ... 22
- Biography of Kim Il-song in Foreign Newspapers *[KCNA]* ... 23
- Belgian Delegation Visits Kim Il-song Statue *[KCNA]* ... 23
- Kim Il-song Praised as 'Tender-Hearted Father' *[KCNA]* ... 24
- Art Exhibition Portrays Leadership of Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* ... 24
- Talk Lauds Kim Chong-il as Center of Unity *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 25
- Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Workers, Teachers *[KCNA]* ... 26
- Kim Chong-il's 'Chuche-Oriented View' Discussed *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 26
- Essay on Loyalty to Kim Chong-il Leadership *[KCNA]* ... 28
- Lecturer Praises Kim Chong-il Leadership *[KCNA]* ... 29
- Army Officers Vow To Be Loyal to Kim Chong-il *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 30
- Foreign Media Praise Kim Chong-il's 'Greatness' *[KCNA]* ... 31
- Kim Chong-il Replies to South, Overseas Koreans *[KCNA]* ... 32
- Rally Pledges To Accelerate Tomb Renovation *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 32
- 'Great Upsurge' in Industrial Output Reported *[KCNA]* ... 32
- Increase in Volume of Shipping Reported *[KCNA]* ... 32
- War Victory Day of Korean People Marked Abroad *[KCNA]* ... 33
- Paper: Asian Peace Depends on Peace on Peninsula *[KCNA]* ... 33
- Delegation From Japan Meets WPK Secretary *[KCNA]* ... 33
  - Gives Stone Plate to Chuche Tower *[KCNA]* ... 34
  - Meets With Reporters 8 Aug *[KCNA]* ... 34
- Delegation From Japanese University Arrives *[KCNA]* ... 34
  - Visits Mansu Kim Il-song Statue *[KCNA]* ... 35
- Japanese Group Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il *[KCNA]* ... 35
- Australian Committee Bulletin Marks Solidarity *[KCNA]* ... 35
- Committee Officials Fete German Party Leader *[KCNA]* ... 35
- Kyrgyzstan-DPRK Association Inaugurated *[KCNA]* ... 35
- Papers Mark Singapore Independence Day *[KCNA]* ... 35
- Greetings Message Sent to Singapore 8 Aug *[KCNA]* ... 36
- Greetings Sent to New Colombian President *[KCNA]* ... 36
- Pyongyang-Sponsored Factory Opens in Cambodia *[KCNA]* ... 36
- Sympathy Sent to Prime Ministers of Cambodia *[KCNA]* ... 36

South Korea

- Seoul To Ask U.S. To Bear More Defense Costs *[THE KOREA TIMES 9 Aug]* ... 36
- More Reportage on U.S.-DPRK Talks in Geneva ... 37
  - 'Diplomatic Source' Comments *[Seoul Radio]* ... 37
  - DPRK, US Appraise Second Day *[YONHAP]* ... 37
- DPRK Proposes Compensation for Halting Reactor *[Seoul Radio]* ... 38
- U.S. Said To Offer DPRK Nuclear Safety Aid *[YONHAP]* ... 38
- U.S., DPRK Discuss Differences on Fuel Rods *[CHOSON ILBO 9 Aug]* ... 38
- DPRK Reportedly To Accept ROK-Type Reactor *[Seoul Radio]* ... 38
- Russian Daily: DPRK Trafficking in Drugs *[YONHAP]* ... 39
- Drug Trafficking Charges Against DPRK Viewed *[CHOSON ILBO 7 Aug, etc.]* ... 39
- Kim Chong-il on Holding N-S Talks 'Alternately' *[Seoul Radio]* ... 40
- Disharmony in Government's DPRK Policy Studied *[SISA JOURNAL 11 Aug]* ... 40
- Minister Hints at Secret Negotiations With North *[Seoul Radio]* ... 43
- 'Reunification Through Absorption' Said Possible *[CHOSON ILBO 9 Aug]* ... 43
- Seoul To Propose Resumption of Red Cross Talks *[TONG-A ILBO 6 Aug]* ... 44
- Resolution Urges DPRK To Return Abductees *[YONHAP]* ... 44
- North Rejection of Seoul Message 'Willful Act' *[YONHAP]* ... 44
- DPRK Propaganda Offensive Against South Viewed *[YONHAP]* ... 45
- North Reportedly Stresses Heavy Indusry *[YONHAP]* ... 45
- Propaganda for Kim Chong-il 'Coronation' Noted *[SEOUL SINMUN 6 Aug]* ... 46
- DPRK 'May Establish Collective Leadership' *[KYODO]* ... 46
- Kim Chong-il's Succession 'May Take Some Time' *[YONHAP]* ... 47
- Kim Il-song Reportedly Died at Villa 2 Jul *[YONHAP]* ... 47

Steps on Comfort Women Said Unsatisfactory *[YONHAP]* 48
Discussion in Tokyo To Review Kidnapping *[THE KOREA HERALD 7 Aug]* 48
Military Medical Team To Join UN Forces *[THE KOREA HERALD 7 Aug]* 48
Book Says Stalin Deported Koreans to Kazakhstan *[YONHAP]* 49
U.S., Japan, PRC 3 Largest Exporters to ROK *[THE KOREA HERALD 6 Aug]* 50
Daily Views Policy of Importing Foreign Workers *[THE KOREA HERALD 7 Aug]* 50
Security Prisoners To Be Excluded From Amnesty *[YONHAP]* 51
Prosecutor Forbids Fifth Seoul Pannational Rally *[Seoul Radio]* 51
Reaction to Report on Leftists Running Councils *[SEOUL SINMUN 6 Aug, etc.]* 51
Chusapa Students' Infiltration Into Army Viewed *[HANGUK ILBO 9 Aug, etc.]* 52
Prosecution on Bribes Received by KEPCO Head *[YONHAP]* 52
'Growing Concern' Over KEPCO Scandal Reported *[YONHAP]* 52
* Deepening Regionalism May Alter Political Scene *[WOLGAN CHOSON Jun]* 53
Cost of Protracted Strike to Hyundai Analyzed *[THE KOREA HERALD 6 Aug]* 61
Rise in Interest Rates 'Reflects' Money Policy *[THE KOREA TIMES 6 Aug]* 62
BOK To Release 1 Trillion Won Into Economy *[THE KOREA TIMES 6 Aug]* 63
Economic Recovery Causing Debate Among Economists *[THE KOREA HERALD 6 Aug]* 63
Ministry: Agro-Fishery Exports Record Increase *[THE KOREA HERALD 7 Aug]* 64

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Delegation Leaves for Study Tour of ROK, SRV *[Rangoon Radio]* 65
    More on Study Tour *[Rangoon Radio]* 65
SRV Minister Calls on Fisheries Minister *[Rangoon Radio]* 65
Karen Antipersonnel Mine Said To Injure Villager *[Rangoon Radio]* 65
Students Call for Rangoon, Suu Kyi Talks *[BANGKOK POST 9 Aug]* 65
'Demoralized' Loimaw Insurgents Surrender *[Rangoon Radio]* 65

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Philippine President Arrives for Visit *[Bandar Seri Begawan TV]* 66
    Addresses State Banquet *[Bandar Seri Begawan TV]* 66

Malaysia

Conditions Spelled out for Ties With Israel *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* 66
Israeli Raid 'Will Not Help' Peace Process *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 67
Continued ASEAN Efforts on EAEC Viewed *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 67
Minister Denies Pressuring ASEAN Members *[BERNAMA]* 67
Government Not To Contact Al-Arqam Leader *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 4 Aug]* 68
Minister Supports WHO Motion To Outlaw Arms *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 6 Aug]* 68
Move To Expand Islamic Banking Discussed *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 6 Aug]* 69
* UMNO Official Reports More Members *[UTUSAN MALAYSIA 6 Jun]* 69
* Opposition Faces Big Challenge in Election *[UTUSAN MALAYSIA 6 Jun]* 70
* Plans for Trade, Ties With Tunisia *[BERITA HARIAN 27 May]* 70
* Industry Minister Urges More R & D *[BERITA HARIAN 28 May]* 71

Singapore

Prime Minister Delivers National Day Message *[Singapore Radio]* 71
Entry of Al-Arqam Leader Still Banned *[Singapore Radio]* 72
Accord To Launch Mobile System Signed *[Singapore Radio]* 72

Cambodia

PRC Donates $150,000 for Rural Development *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 72
Shanghai Company To Operate Battambang Factory *[REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA 7 Aug]* 72

Ranariddh: 'One or Two' Thais To Be Released *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 72
Khmer Rouge Demand 1 Million Dollars *[AFP]* 73
Further on Accusation Regarding Train Attacks *[AFP]* 73
    Officials Accused of Aiding KR *[AFP]* 74
PGNUNS Ministry Calls for Cooperation *[Radio PGNUNS]* 74
Cabinet Meeting Describes Enemy's Predicament *[Radio PGNUNS]* 76
Rangsi Discusses Changes to Investment Law *[CAMBODIA DAILY 4 Aug]* 77
Citing Leaks, Government Threatens Punishment *[AFP]* 78

Indonesia

Nuclear Plant Construction To Start in 1996 *[ANTARA]* 78
Australian Defense Minister on Exercises *[ANTARA]* 79
Government Ponders Policy Decision on Al-Arqam *[Jakarta Radio]* 79
Attorney General Bans Book by Al-Arqam Leader *[Jakarta Radio]* 79
Military Seizes 59 Tons of Cannabis in Aceh *[KOMPAS 10 Jul]* 80
* Foreigners Invited To Invest in Transportation *[KOMPAS 4 Jul]* 80
* Reissuance of Publishing Permit Discussed *[KOMPAS 1 Jul]* 81
* Xanana Visited by Family *[KOMPAS 4 Jul]* 83
* Government Considering Five-Day Work Week *[KOMPAS 30 Jun]* 83

Thailand

Cambodia Urged To Judge Suspects Fairly *[THE NATION 8 Aug]* 84
* PRC-Made Missiles Found Near Cambodia Border *[DAILY NEWS 26 Jun]* 85
Prasong Views Human Resources Shortages *[Bangkok Radio]* 85
Troops Order Mon Refugees To Return to Camp *[THE NATION 9 Aug]* 86
Deputy Minister Reports on Copyright Law Status *[Bangkok TV]* 86
* Officials Discuss Worker Rights, Child Labor 86
    Chief Adviser to Minister Comments *[SIAM RAT 7 Jun]* 86
    * Social Security Mandates, Safety *[DAILY NEWS 13 Jun]* 87
    * Police Colonel Cited on Child Labor *[DAO SIAM 8 Jun]* 87

Vietnam

Vietnam-Japanese Economic Relations Viewed *[Hanoi International]* 88
Vo Van Kiet Issues Laos Logging Decision *[Hanoi International]* 89
* Basic Points in Draft Labor Law Discussed *[SAIGON GIAI PHONG 4, 5 May]* 89
* Applying Social Science to Military Domain *[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN May 94]* .. 92
* Worker Class Faces New Opportunity, Challenge
  [TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN May] 94

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

KR Threatens To Kill Citizens of Nations *[Melbourne International]* 98
Three Westerners Kidnapped by KR 'Still Alive' *[Melbourne International]* 98
Indonesian Navy To Join in Joint Exercise *[Melbourne International]* 98
Details Sought on Indonesian Arms Proposal *[Melbourne International]* 98
    Groups Express Concern *[Melbourne International]* 98
'Strong Warning' Issued to PRC on Businessman *[Melbourne International]* 99
Digital Exchanges To Be Exported to PRC *[THE AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW 22 Jul]* . 99
Island Leaders Urged To End Resource Misuse *[Melbourne International]* 99
Keating 'Very Concerned' About Logging *[Melbourne International]* 100
Government Stand on Interest Rates Reaffirmed *[Melbourne International]* 100
New Figures Show Retail Trade Falls in Jun *[Melbourne International]* 100
Australians Fear Loss of GATT Benefits *[London FINANCIAL TIMES 29 Jul]* 100

Papua New Guinea

Government Makes Peace Offer to Navy Officer *[AFP]* 102

More Speculation on DPRK Demands From U.S.

OW0608143394 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 6 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 5

[By Kunihiko Yamaoka]

[Text] Geneva, 5 Aug—At the third round of high-level DPRK-U.S. talks which have resumed in Geneva after a lapse of one month, North Korea is apparently trying to extract many guarantees from the United States by using its possession of plutonium and a plan to freeze its nuclear program as negotiation cards.

At a news conference held in Washington on 2 August, Assistant Secretary of State Gallucci explained his satisfaction with North Korea's negotiation stance, saying: "Substantial, serious, and technical discussions were held at the first meeting on 8 July. We would like to resume the discussions on these matters as a continuation of the previous meeting." Regarding the issue of helping North Korea replace its reactors with light water reactors, Gallucci, who made a round of calls late last month to the ROK, Japan, China, and Russia, stated: "Within the framework of a comprehensive settlement, we talked about it as one possible element." In this way, he avoided making detailed remarks, because the issue of a light water reactor is one of negotiation.

On the other hand, a North Korean source pointed out the following to YOMIURI SHIMBUN: 1) We expect the United States to come up with practical measures to make up for our economic loss until we install the light water reactors, and to give us a firm legal guarantee to provide us with light water reactors; 2) the sooner the light water reactors are operational, the sooner we can freeze the graphite reactor facilities completely; and 3) the nuclear issues of the past (disclosure of extracted plutonium) will naturally be solved if the light water reactor issue is settled.

Among other things, the North Korean source revealed for the first time that economic support is needed during the period in which North Korea will install light water reactors. It is said that the installation will take 10 years.

Through former U.S. President Carter, who visited Pyongyang in June, late North Korean President Kim Il-song promised the U.S. Government the following three points: 1) North Korea will not reprocess nuclear fuel taken from reactors; 2) North Korea will not load its five-megawatt graphite reactor with nuclear fuel; and 3) North Korea will continue to allow IAEA inspectors, who are staying in North Korea, to inspect nuclear facilities in Yongbyon. Suspension of the on-going projects to construct 50-megawatt and 200-megawatt graphite reactors and the second line [as published] of reprocessing facilities is not included in this pledge.

While insisting that it is "possible to reprocess the used nuclear fuel under the supervision of the International Atomic Agency," North Korea will demand that the United States compensate Pyongyang for abandoning the plan to reprocess spent nuclear fuel. Moreover, it also seems that North Korea will strongly demand compensation for abandoning construction of new graphite reactors and an expansion of reprocessing capability.

PRC's Qian Qichen Views Asia-Pacific Economy

BK2907033094 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 27 Jul 94 p 8

[Text] Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen told reporters yesterday that in China's viewpoint, the Asia-Pacific region has bright prospects looking toward the century's end because it has enjoyed the fastest economic growth in the world. This will be beneficial to regional stability and will help the Asia-Pacific region to become the world's most important region.

Regarding China's policy toward the Asia-Pacific region, Qian Qichen said that "China will make use of the favorable conditions of regional stability and progress in developing its economy so that its people will have a better life. China's gross national product will achieve a four-fold growth from 1980's to the end of the century.

The Chinese foreign minister also said: "China is a big market. China's imports were recorded at 100 billion U.S. dollars last year. Its imports will reach 1,000 billion U.S. dollars at the end of the century. So, China will become a big market of interest of other countries.

ASEAN Agrees To Ban Al-Arqam Movement

BK0408113194 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0845 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Langkawi, Aug 4 (ANTARA)—ASEAN ministers for religious affairs on Thursday declared the controversial self-styled Darul Arqam Islamic group movement as jeopardizing to the unity of the followers of Islam and agreed on the banning of the group's leader's presence in the six ASEAN member countries.

The banning of the Arqam group leader, Ashaari, is based on evidences that showed his group as a political movement.

Last week, Ashaari, who had been taking residence in the southern part of Thailand since 1988, was told to leave Thailand following Kuala Lumpur's decision to ban his movement. Sources said Ashaari now lives in Jordan.

"We do not know where he lives now, but latest news says he is in Jordan," Malaysia's minister for Islamic affairs, Abang Abu Bakar, told a joint press conference after attending the ASEAN religious ministers' meeting.

ASEAN countries have also agreed to help the Arqam followers in regaining the true path of Islamic teaching.

"For Indonesia, the Arqam movement is small (in membership) compared to other existing religious movements," said Indonesia's religious minister, Tarmizi Taher, adding that the Indonesian Government will stay alert in order to maintain harmony in the country's religious life.

He stressed Indonesia does not want to become an asylum to any illegal group movement escapees, including the Arqam.

He said it would be too risky to accept the Arqam in the country that has harmonious religious life.

Singapore, which also shares similar stance with Indonesia, reportedly bans the Arqam followers from entering the country's mosques and other worship places where misleading propaganda could be promoted by its followers.

"We will take rational and cautious actions against the movement to avoid social unrest in our country," said Singapore's Islamic Affairs Minister Abdullah Tarmugi.

On the status of Ashaari himself, the six ASEAN countries have agreed to determine Ashaari as "on the run" and not a criminal. The Malaysian Government has not yet asked for Ashaari's extradition.

The 5th ASEAN religious ministers informal meeting also concluded with the recommendation of five Islamic guidance books on, among others, Halal (allowed) food and illegal movements.

South Pacific Island Leaders Talk With Taiwan

BK0508071494 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] In Australia talks are being held between Pacific island leaders and Taiwan in the Queensland resort center of the Gold Coast. In deference to Chinese sensitivities, Australia has insisted the discussions take place away from the state capital, Brisbane, where this week's South Pacific Forum meeting was held.

The diplomatic battle between China and Taiwan over recognition in the South Pacific is intense with four of the 15 island nations recognizing Taiwan over China. China used its earlier meeting with South Pacific leaders to strongly oppose Taiwan's diplomatic presence in the region.

Japan

Article Urges End to Framework Talks

OW0908105994 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 8 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 7

[Article by Editorial Board member Hideo Tamura: "The Framework Talks Have Only Resulted in Distrust Between Japan and the United States—This Is the Time To Declare an End to the Framework Talks"]

[Text] One year has passed since the Japan-U.S. economic framework talks first began, but Japan and the United States have not hammered out a single trade agreement at the framework talks. The Clinton administration has spoken of "trade sanctions against Japan" at every opportunity, and a growing number of Japanese think the Clinton administration is simply crying wolf.

There is a growing view in Washington that "unless a big whip is used against Japan, Japan will not change." The framework talks look like a barren wildness. They have produced nothing but mutual distrust between Japan and the United States.

U.S. Pressure for Strong Yen Backfires

The Clinton administration has listened—since its inauguration in January 1993—to the requests of U.S. businesses that have hoped for either numerical targets to measure the access of foreign goods to the Japanese market, or for appreciating the yen as an aid to boost their exports to Japan. The Clinton administration had been willing to tolerate a strong yen if the framework talks end in failure. The Clinton administration thought that the appreciated yen would strengthen the American industry's competitiveness and prompt Japan to reform itself and make trade concessions to the United States. The situation has moved in a unexpected direction, however.

Japanese Businesses have expanded their production bases to Asian nations, while steadily building a division-of-work system. Japan's current account surplus with Southeast Asia in 1993 exceeded that with the United States. While Japanese enterprises are strengthening their competitiveness in fast growing Asian markets, American corporations are lagging behind their Japanese counterparts. Japanese enterprises are exporting their products to the United States from other Asian nations.

The appreciated yen cannot become a negative factor on Japan's economy. The appreciated yen is shoring up enterprises and banks that are beset by the aftermath of the bursting of the bubble economy. Contrary to U.S. expectations, the strong yen and the weak dollar have become a factor in destabilizing the U.S. economy. Although the Clinton administration has succeeded in starting a recovery in the U.S. economy by adopting a "super-low interest rate policy"—that means a zero interest rate—the weak dollar has fanned fears of inflation, thereby causing long-term interest rates to rise and stock prices to fall. American institutional investors, who have fled American markets, have now begun making aggressive investments in Japan with the prospect of reaping benefits from the appreciated yen.

The net investment by foreigners in Japan during the past six months from January to June 1994 amounted to 4.27 trillion yen, hitting an all-time high. Japanese corporations sold stock holdings worth 2.2 trillion yen during the six months. With foreign investors aggressively buying stocks in Japan, the prices of stocks in Japan will be stabilized. Japanese enterprises and banks can reap profits by selling their stock holdings. For this reason, Japan's economy is slowly bottoming out despite the appreciated yen that makes one dollar worth 100 yen. While Japan's economy appears to be able to find a way out of the current recession even if Japan does not compromise unreasonably with the United States on trade issues, the United States appears to suffer adverse effects from the depreciated dollar.

While Japan has done nothing to reduce its trade surplus, the United States has cared about results of the framework talks. The dispute between the two countries has caused major troubles for the rest of the world. Capital, especially stock capital, is flowing out of the United States. Japan's trade surplus and its long-term capital revenues are combining to monopolize the world's surplus funds.

The situation cannot be ruled out wherein the appreciation of the yen stops and depreciation begins, prompting foreign investors to hurriedly sell their stock holdings in Japan. What is important is that the framework talks and the appreciated yen, a byproduct of the framework talks, are destabilizing Japan-U.S. economic relations and disrupting international financial and capital markets.

It Is Hopeless for Japan and the United States To Shake Hands

Will Japan and the United States be able to shake hands at the end of the framework talks? The answer is no. The answer is not no only because setting numerical targets to measure foreign access to the Japanese market runs counter to the principle of free trade. Japan's foreign policy is rapidly shifting its priority to Asian nations, reflecting economic realities. Asian nations have urged Japan not to accept U.S. demands for numerical targets and objective criteria out of the fear that if Japan accepts those U.S. trade demands, then the United States would push them to accept those trade demands. Foreign Ministry officials in charge of the framework talks have said, "If Japan accepts the objective criteria, that is akin to numerical targets, and it would sow the seeds of future problems for Japan."

The Republican administrations have tried to pry open the Japanese market with the policy of attaching importance to the process. The Clinton administration has criticized the policy as unable to produce any trade results. Setting an objective criteria to measure the openness of the Japanese market is a commitment that the Clinton administration has made to U.S. Congress and businesses. The Clinton administration's commitment is a countermeasure against the Republican Party. Both Japan and the United States cannot make concessions to each other over the objective criteria for political reasons.

If Japan continues to hold out against the objective criteria, the Clinton administration has only one option, and that option is to slap trade sanctions on Japan.

At a meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor during the Naples Summit, International Trade and Industry Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told the American official, "We have no intention of holding the framework talks at the gunpoint of trade sanctions." In response, Kantor said, "U.S. Congress aims its gun at us." Minister Hashimoto retorted, "It that gun not made in America?" If the United States casually uses the weapon of trade sanctions against its trading partners, it will not be respected by Asian and European nations."

Japan and the United States have failed to hammer out an agreement in their negotiations on government procurement, and a 30 September deadline imposed by the United States for possible trade sanctions against Japan in accordance with the Super 301 provision of the 1988 Omnibus Trade Act is nearing. The insurance sector and the automobile-auto parts sector have been discussed as priority sectors, in addition to the government procurement sector, at the framework talks, and the two countries must discuss financial service and investment issues as well.

Meanwhile, there are moves among some officials in the Clinton administration to review U.S. policy toward Japan. There is a view among the officials that the United States should turn its eye to other Asian nations, including China, instead of fixing its eyes on Japan. In an interview, U.S. Commerce Undersecretary Jeffrey Garten has remarked: "There is a fear that Japan and the United States may confront each other over Asian markets rather than over their markets. Their confrontation over the Asian markets is even more serious." The American official went so far as to state, "It is necessary for Japan and the United States to discuss speedy ways to formulate rules of competition in order to avert a cool peace between them on Asian markets."

The Murayama Government Needs To Have the Will for Reforms

If Japan and the United States increasingly distrust each other because of their failure to hammer out a set of agreements at the framework talks and do not hold significant bilateral trade negotiations, they and the rest of the world will suffer the consequences. It is time for Japan and the United States to declare an end to the Japan-U.S. economic framework talks. Nonetheless, Japan cannot press the United States to withdraw its trade demands without presenting the United States with alternative proposals. Since the Clinton administration has focused its economic policy on trade policy and given its utmost priority to the framework talks, it would not drop its trade demands on Japan without any tangible trade results.

There is a condition whereby the Clinton administration can easily give up the framework talks. Japan must clearly put forth a reform promotion program and promote it. That is the condition. The Clinton administration, which was inaugurated on the platform of "changes," has supported simple and unconditional "changes" in other nations. The Clinton administration supported—unusually and openly—the Hosokawa and Hata governments that were inaugurated on the platform of "reforms."

If Japanese political leaders have no strong will to turn the Japanese market around, Japan and the United States cannot enter new trade negotiations. The Murayama government, which is suspected by the United States to be formed by a "conservative group," has the heavy responsibility to purge the United States of this suspicion.

'No Plans' To Cut Payments to U.S. Forces

OW0908042394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—The government has no plans to cut its "sympathy" budget for shouldering much of the outlay to maintain U.S. forces stationed in Japan despite its austere policy on defense spending, a government source said Tuesday [9 August].

"We, as the government, have not asked for a cut in such expenditures and have no intention of doing so," said the source, who did not want to be identified.

Japan has provided U.S. forces stationed in Japan under the Japan-U.S. mutual security treaty with subsidies since 1978. The money helps pay for goods and services, along with salaries for Japanese workers at U.S. bases and expenses for lighting and fuel.

In fiscal 1993, such subsidies paid to the U.S. military totaled 228.5 billion yen, more than half the money needed to keep U.S. forces stationed in Japan.

In drafting the budget for the next fiscal year, the government has decided to keep the maximum growth of defense spending to be requested by the end of this month at 0.9 percent over the initial fiscal 1994 budget, the lowest growth on record in such a spending request.

The source said the Defense Agency could cut its outlays by postponing purchases of jet fighters and tanks even though the money saved would be small in the first year.

The Defense Agency has been at a loss over how to reduce its expenditures, and Defense Agency Director

General Tokuichiro Tamazawa has alluded to the possibility of lowering subsidies to the U.S. military.

DPRK Said Troubled by Spent Nuclear Fuel Rod

OW0908105694 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 8 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] It is believed the DPRK (North Korea) is having problems storing spent fuel rods because of bad conditions in a chiller pool, such as high temperatures and acidity. At high-level negotiations with the United States in Geneva, North Korea insisted it has to start reprocessing spent fuel rods as soon as possible because the fuel rods in the chiller pool are rusting badly. However, Japan stores the same type of spent fuel rods for a year without corrosion problems. If North Korea takes anticorrosion measures in line with U.S. advice, it is technically possible to extend the durability of the fuel rods in the pool.

Spent nuclear fuel contains a fission product called "lethal ash," and it is stored in chiller pools until its radioactivity drops to levels appropriate for reprocessing.

According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other sources, most of 8,000 fuel rods spent by North Korea's experimental reactor are stored in a pool. Some rods broken during operation are sealed up in lead-coated containers and stored in an air-cooled storage room.

The speed of fuel rod corrosion is greatly influenced by the temperature and acidity of water filling the pool.

The IAEA said North Korea's fuel rods are covered with alloyed magnesium to prevent the leak of fission products. However, magnesium is prone to corrode in water, and corrosion is accelerated as the water becomes warmer.

Japan's Tokai Nuclear Plant has the same type of reactors as North Korea's, and these reactors also use magnesium-coated fuel rods. The Japanese facility uses alkalized water to slow down corrosion, and this enables Japan to keep fuel rods in good condition for a year until reprocessing.

North Korea removed the fuel rods from the reactor in May and June. The nation has also reportedly insisted on the need to reprocess this "coming fall." The United States said immediate measures should be taken to store fuel rods in better conditions. A Japanese specialist said this is because "corrosion may be accelerated with low-quality magnesium coating or with bad chiller water conditions."

'Secret' Document on Nuclear, Foreign Policies

OW0908091494 Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 7 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] It was learned on 6 August that Japan's basic policies toward South Korea were discussed in a classified document entitled: "Japan's Foreign Policy Outline" and some of them were actually practiced. The document, which was compiled by the Foreign Ministry in 1969, shows the government's inclination to "maintain nuclear weapon-producing potential." The document mentions specific aid and cooperation plans for South Korea, such as "providing communications facilities." About the time the paper was compiled, some of the aid plans discussed in the document were actually carried out. When the secret document was revealed, the Foreign Ministry explained "it carries mere internal discussions." However, it appears the document's contents were more than "discussions" and some were reflected in Japan's diplomacy toward South Korea.

The document allocates four pages to discuss cooperation with South Korea in a "Policies Toward the Korean Peninsula" section in "The Second Part—Japan's Foreign Policy."

The document characterizes South Korea "as a special region with which Japan should maintain close relations." Judging that there will be no change in the DPRK's (North Korea) military policy toward South Korea for the time being, it says: "Japan should progressively implement measures to help South Korea enhance its capability to maintain peace and order within the constraints of the constitution. Measures may include providing high-speed inshore patrol boats and communications facilities to maintain public order as well as giving assistance in constructing expressways."

According to data kept at the Foreign Ministry and other government offices, Japan provided South Korea with 2.88 billion yen [Y] during a two-year period from 1968 to 1970 to assist in "constructing expressways" in accordance with a cooperation contract concluded in 1968, the year before the Foreign Ministry drew up the classified document. The aid was appropriated for procuring materials and equipment needed for the construction of a (428-km- long) expressway connecting Seoul and Pusan. Some expressways in South Korea become wider as they approach Seoul. This is to enable jet fighters to take off and land on them in an emergency. After the government provided the aid, it was much talked about in Japan. Also, to help construct long-distance telephone lines for the private sector as well as relay stations, the ministry concluded contracts for the provision of a yen loan in 1973, four years after it compiled the secret document, and again in 1976. In accordance with these contracts, yen loans totaling Y12.8 billion were provided and more than 35,000 telephone lines were built by 1979.

A former senior Foreign Ministry official said: "At that time, it was quite natural to think the development and stability of South Korea contributed to maintaining security on the peninsula." An incumbent bureau chief at the ministry also said: "The things mentioned in the document were basically a springboard for discussion. But some were reflected in policies."

In the "Policies Toward the Korean Peninsula" section, the document notes: "Japan should always deal with

South Korea in a manner in which it tries to understand the country's position. It should accept South Korea's assertion even if it is unreasonable in some points."

In August 1973, four years after the document was compiled, an incident took place in which Kim Tae-chung, then ROK presidential candidate, was abducted from a Tokyo hotel. Without knowing the whole truth about the incident, Japan and South Korea closed it out of political considerations. This indicates that to close the incident, Japan actually practiced the policy of accepting South Korea's assertion even if it was "unreasonable." Professor Naruhiko Ito of Chuo University, representative of a "group demanding a solution to the Kim Tae-chung incident" said: "The stand of 'accepting even unreasonable assertions' is the Foreign Ministry's consistent policy. I think this attitude is responsible for the obscure settlement of the incident."

The secret document mentions the basic position adopted by the then Foreign Ministry: "Japan should maintain its nuclear weapons- producing potential and take necessary measures to ensure that this stance does not invite foreign objections." When the contents of the document were revealed on 1 August, Kunihiko Saito, administrative vice minister of foreign affairs, said: "These were mere inhouse discussions, not something compiled as policy." Foreign Minister Yohei Kono admitted the secret document's existence at a 3 August news conference, saying: "It is true that every possible policy, its merits and demerits, were discussed at inhouse meetings."

Medical Team Leaves for Zaire To Aid Refugees

OW0908052794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0452 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—A Japanese medical team Tuesday [9 August] left for Goma in eastern Zaire to aid Rwandan refugees who have fled civil war in their country, only to fall prey to the ravages of cholera and dysentery.

The five-member team, comprising a doctor, two nurses from hospitals run by the Japanese Red Cross Society and two support staff, will join other medical specialists sent by the International Red Cross in trying to end the epidemics in Goma, Red Cross officials said.

Some 1.8 million Rwandans have flooded into refugee camps in neighboring Zaire and Tanzania.

Yatsuka Imagawa, a professor at Azabu University in Kanagawa Prefecture and a 30-year veteran of treating infectious diseases around the world, will stay in Goma for one month.

Miyuki Shinomi, 39, a nurse from Ishinomaki Red Cross Hospital in Miyagi Prefecture, and Akemi Kijima, 31, a nurse from Ogawa Red Cross Hospital in Saitama Prefecture, will work in the refugee camps for three months, the officials said.

Before departing from Narita airport near Tokyo, Imagawa, 67, said, "Securing a supply of clean water is the first and foremost step in putting an end to the epidemics."

"Besides giving medical assistance, Japan must send water-purifying equipment and technical specialists from the government and private sectors," Imagawa said.

The Japanese Red Cross Society also plans to send three nurses Aug. 16 to aid some 460,000 Rwandan refugees in Tanzania.

In late July the Japanese Red Cross Society pledged 19.8 million yen in emergency aid for the Rwandan refugees.

The money is earmarked for the purchase of medical supplies and food, and their transport.

NHK News Aired by 104 Radio Stations in Russia

OW0908110894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0947 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Sapporo, Aug. 9 KYODO—Privately-run radio stations in Russia have doubled to 104 over the last year with one new station in Vladivostok seeking to air news from the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK).

The Russian radio boom has been prompted by the introduction of market economics into the former communist state and driven by a desire for local information and advertising, Russian radio personnel said recently.

According to the 1994 edition of the U.S. Broadcast annual, WRTH, there are 104 private radio stations in Russia, nearly double the previous year.

Three stations now operate in Vladivostok in the Russian Far East, specializing in local news and information like the arrival of gasoline at the city's gas stations.

"Vladivostok Today" started operations this June with the support of the city's major newspaper companies.

During its 14-hour daily broadcast, Vladivostok today informs its listeners of local events as well as news from overseas. It has signed an agreement this month to receive news from NHK.

Vladivostok today president, announcer, and reporter Vladimir Oshshenko stresses the station's connections with the newspapers, telling the listeners to "get the news from the radio and the details in tomorrow's newspapers."

VBC, which started broadcasting last fall and operates with a 24- hour service, is popular among the young Vladivostok audience with its program of the latest U.S., European and Russian hits.

Meanwhile, the state-run radio station continues with is stiff programming centered on news, but is often dismissed by the listeners as "boring."

The local radio stations, however, are faced with a relative lack of potential advertisers and announcers often read ads from local banks and businesses.

The radio stations often tell their potential clients that by airing their ads "your business will be very successful" or announce that they are seeking businesses or people who want to advertise.

Some of the more unique ads on vladivostok radio stations are not attempts to sell products, but requests by individuals to buy cars and those seeking apartments.

Kono, Indonesian Minister on Investment, Aid

OW0908111194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—Indonesia asked Japan on Tuesday [9 August] for increased development assistance to the country, Japanese officials said.

Visiting Indonesian Minister of National Development Planning Kartasasmita Ginanjar also gave Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono an update on the country's development situation, they said. The Indonesian delegation also pledged efforts to facilitate a more liberal environment for investment and trade in the Asian Pacific region, with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum scheduled to convene in Indonesia in November.

Kono told the delegation that private sector investment is vital to economic development and asked Indonesia to create an environment conducive to such investment.

Zenno Reportedly Considering Importing Rice

OW0908105794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1028 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—The National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (Zenno), once one of the strongest critics of Japan's plan to buy foreign rice, is studying whether to import rice, Zenno officials said Tuesday [9 August].

The officials said Zenno-affiliated wholesalers and importers are studying joining auctions for foreign rice that will be imported starting next April in line with the Uruguay round trade pact.

Under the global agreement, Japan is committed to allowing the "minimum access" to foreign rice, importing 379,000 tons of rice next fiscal year. Zenno strongly opposed rice imports but has reversed its stance apparently to keep major trading houses from dominating the imported rice market. The officials said Zenno will discuss the issue at a board of directors' meeting scheduled for Aug. 18.

The food agency has been considering introducing the so-called simultaneous buy and sell (sbs) method for imported rice auctions. Under the system, pairs of wholesalers and importers simultaneously place bids to the food agency, which then allots imports to bidders based on tendered prices and other factors. Agency sources said the sbs method will be applied to 5,000 tons of the 379,000 tons to be imported next fiscal year.

Kono Scheduled To Visit U.S., South America

Attends 'Quad' Trade Meeting

OW0908113694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1125 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono plans to attend a quadrilateral ministerial trade meeting in Los Angeles (L.A.) next month among Japan, the United States, the European Union and Canada, ministry officials said Tuesday [9 August]. The Sept. 9-11 meeting will be also attended by International Trade and Industry Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, they said.

Kono will leave Tokyo on Aug. 28 for Brazil and Argentina before moving on to Cairo to attend the UN population conference that begins there Sept. 5. He will travel to Los Angeles after the Cairo meeting. In Los Angeles, Kono plans to discuss the deadlocked bilateral trade framework talks with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, the officials said.

They said Kono will be responding to an invitation by the U.S. to take part in the multilateral trade meeting. Kono's visit to Latin America was postponed due to the sudden death of North Korean leader Kim Il-song last month. The visit to Brazil by Kono will be the first by a Japanese foreign minister since 1985 and the Argentina visit the first since 1981.

Visits Brazil, Argentina 28 Aug

OW0908121094 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 7 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono will visit Brazil and Argentina for nine days beginning 28 August. During his visit to Brazil, he will attend the Japan-Rio Group foreign ministerial talks to be held in the Brazilian capital of Brasilia.

The Rio Group is a regional forum created by 12 Latin American nations for policy discussion.

Foreign Minister Kono will hold a series of meetings with the presidents and foreign ministers of Brazil and Argentina. The Haiti issue is expected to be high on the agenda of the meetings and Japan-Rio Group foreign ministerial talks, as Brazil and Argentina are currently serving as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council.

At the meetings and talks, Foreign Minister Kono will express Japan's support for dispatching a multinational force to Haiti from the standpoint of honoring the UN Security Council Resolution 940, and will ask for the reinstatement to office of President Aristide who was expelled from Haiti. Kono also will explain that Japan has already frozen aid, except humanitarian assistance, to the Haiti military junta in accordance with the guideline of the Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Mr. Kono will be the first Japanese foreign minister to visit Brazil in nine years since former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe paid a visit in 1985. He also will be the first Japanese foreign minister to visit Argentina in 13 years since former Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda made a visit to that country.

During his stay in Brazil, Foreign Minister Kono will meet separately with President Franco and Foreign Minister Amorim. During his visit to Argentina, he will meet separately with President Menem and Foreign Minister Di Tella. The Japan-Rio Group foreign ministerial talks will be attended by Foreign Minister Amorim of Brazil, which is playing host to the talks; Foreign Minister Figueroa of Chile, which played host at the previous talks; and Foreign Minister Paredes of Ecuador, which will play host at future talks.

Murayama Plans Monthly Tours of Local Districts

OW0808174594 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 8 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 3

[Text] It has been decided that Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will tour local districts about once a month beginning in September to conduct "grass-roots dialogue" with local residents. Under the slogan of "carrying out politics that cares about the people," which he upheld in his policy speech, the prime minister plans to listen directly to what the people have to say and have their opinions reflected in the government's policies.

In addition to touring farmlands and inspecting small and medium sized enterprises, Murayama also plans to hold informal meetings with various local organizations. He is considering first visiting the Tohoku [northeastern] region.

Former Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata has given speeches while "standing on street corners" [tsujidachi] in Fukushima Prefecture and Tokyo, among other areas, to stress his political stance. In contrast, Prime Minister Murayama reportedly plans to emphasize his naive character and "looks forward to listening to the people instead" as stated by the prime minister's close aides in his "dialogue" with the people. In this way, Murayama hopes to convey his attitude of "re-examining matters at the same level of perception as the ordinary people."

Recently, Prime Minister Murayama has indicated his confidence in carrying out government affairs. For example he has said: "The government can become a stable one."

Regarding policies, however, Murayama has been having a hard time trying to hammer out a political style "befitting a government run by the Social Democratic Party of Japan." He apparently plans to lay his political style before the people as much as possible through his dialogue tactic.

Article Describes Politics, Murayama Style

OW0808113794 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 7 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed article: "The Depths of the Ruling Coalition: Has the Prime Minister's Official Residence Changed?"]

I Cannot Shy Away From Mandate

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, the 52nd Japanese prime minister since Ito Hirobumi, awakes in a Japanese-style bedroom on the first floor of the prime minister's official house [kotei] at 0500 every morning. He goes to his office at the prime minister's official residence [kantei] after eating breakfast while reading newspapers.

He asks: "With what should I begin today?"

His secretary answers: "Among other things, some cabinet members will hold a meeting this morning prior to the cabinet meeting. The major topics to be discussed at the meeting are ...."

He walks into his office on the second floor of the prime minister's official residence after walking down a 36-meter corridor that links the prime minister's official residence to the prime minister's official house. Recently, he often ascends stairs two steps at a time. About one month has passed since Prime Minister Murayama took office. He has now come to walk with a light step.

At 0340 on 30, June only six hours after he was elected prime minister at a House of Representatives plenary session, Tsuruo Yamaguchi and Yasuo Yamashita, both legislators affiliated with the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], and Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara assembled at the Capital Tokyu Hotel, located near the prime minister's official residence. Murayama ran to join them after finishing summit talks with Yohei Kono, president of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], and Masayoshi Takemura, representative of Sakigake [Harbinger Party].

What Murayama, the two SDPJ legislators, and Nobuo Ishihara discussed at their meeting was the question of whether Murayama, chairman of the SDPJ, will be able to run the coalition government while keeping the SDPJ's policies intact. They discussed whether Murayama will be able to deal with Diet affairs while upholding the SDPJ's policies on the Self-Defense Forces [SDF], nuclear power plants, Hinomaru [the national flag], and Kimigayo [the national anthem]. They also discussed whether the SDPJ needs to change its policies.

Murayama's answers were clear-cut at the meeting. He unequivocally said: "Since I am in a position wherein I am trusted with Japan's politics, I cannot shy away from the mandate." People around Murayama have said: "He agonized over the SDPJ's policies until just prior to answering questions in the Diet. He has already made up his mind to change the SDPJ's policies. As prime minister, he has fully realized the need to alter the SDPJ's policies." Senior Labor Union Officials and Party and Local Representatives Frequently

Visit the Prime Minister's Official Residence

Murayama has revealed his feelings about the prime minister's official residence: "I am now at ease at this official residence." He now invites senior officials of labor unions that back the SDPJ, senior SDPJ officials, and SDPJ local chapter representatives to the prime minister's official residence.

On the evening of 26 July, Murayama had dinner with Yoshio Hashimura, chairman of a trade union that maintains ties with the SDPJ, and other labor union officials in the widest reception room in the prime minister's official residence. They dined while looking on a garden in the prime minister's official residence.

During the dinner, a senior labor union official, who still harbors rancor against the LDP-SDPJ alliance, pressed Murayama to "deal with the defense budget in line with SDPJ policies." In response, Murayama said: "I intend to do so, but I am unable to deal with the defense budget that way." Murayama handed each dinner participant an envelop containing a small dish when they left the official residence, saying: "This is a souvenir I bought in South Korea for you. Please, take it."

On 1 August, the SDPJ held a "meeting of representatives of the SDPJ prefectural chapters" and the representatives were expected to react against a series of changes in the SDPJ's policies. Murayama invited the representatives to the prime minister's official residence on the evening of 1 August after managing to preside over the meeting.

At a garden in the prime minister's official residence, Murayama shook hands with a sunny smile for each of the representatives when they called him "prime minister, prime minister." Murayama posed with them during a photo session. A local assembly member, who backs "Democrats," a rightist group in the SDPJ that confronts Murayama, whispered happily to a person close to Murayama: "I and the prime minister just had our picture taken. I have already finished printing pamphlets for use by the support council and all the pamphlets have been used up. I will print additional pamphlets." Of late, Murayama has come to phone some LDP members for their advice, saying: "Hello, this is Murayama. Would you tell me how I should promote this policy?"

On 28 July, Masaharu Gotoda, former deputy prime minister and justice minister, sent his book, "Politics and Government," to Murayama, saying: "This book was printed just yesterday." Murayama is said to be reading the book. Murayama appears to have begun paying attention to forging his own relationship with bureaucrats and of using them for his purposes.

Appearance of Man in Power Remains Unchanged

Murayama did not necessarily want to become prime minister. He entered the prime minister's official residence lonely, carrying a trunk and a Japanese cushion. Murayama is now transforming himself into a politician struggling to keep his government in place. This appearance of a man in power remains unchanged since the one-party government of the LDP and the Hosokawa and Hata coalition governments. A new story about a man in power has just begun.

Murayama on Tax Reform Bill, Aid to Rwanda

OW0908052194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0459 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Nagasaki, Aug. 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama expressed hope Tuesday [9 August] that the government can submit a bill to revamp the tax system to the Diet as early as possible and have it passed into law by the end of this year.

"The three ruling parties are supposed to reach a conclusion on the course of tax system reform by the end of September," the premier said at a news conference.

"They are currently working to pass a tax system reform bill through the Diet by the end of the year," Murayama said.

While noting the need to extend this year's one-off income tax reduction into fiscal 1995 and beyond so as to boost the economy, the premier said it is also necessary to rectify the inequality in the current tax system and secure a source of alternative revenues to cover future income tax cuts.

Murayama met the press after attending the annual peace ceremony marking the 49th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945.

Murayama, Japan's first socialist premier in 47 years, took part in a similar commemorative ceremony Saturday in Hiroshima, where the world's first atomic bomb used in warfare was dropped Aug. 6, 1945.

The last prime minister to attend both rites in the same year was Toshiki Kaifu, who visited the two cities in 1990.

Murayama also made clear the government plans to send a medical team to countries near Rwanda as part of Japan's contribution to U.N. peacekeeping activities.

"It is impossible for Japan to make a personnel contribution in Rwanda," the premier said, citing Tokyo's five conditions for overseas dispatch of personnel for U.N.

peacekeeping missions. One of the conditions is that a cease-fire must have been agreed among the warring parties.

Murayama said, however, that Japan can send a medical team to the Rwanda's neighboring countries of Uganda and Zaire, adding the government will decide on the dispatch after its fact-finding mission to the area returns Wednesday.

SDPJ, DSP Members Moving To Form Coalition

OW0908093994 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 7 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 3

[Text] Moves to establish a new group as the core of a coalition between the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] and the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] have been rapidly surfacing among Diet members from the two parties. They intend to unify forces of the two parties by establishing a policy research group by reorganizing the "Committee Opposing the Coalition Between the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the SDPJ, and for Realizing a Pro-Reform Coalition Administration," which was formed to work for the SDPJ's return to the former ruling coalition by 82 members of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors from the SDPJ and the DSP shortly before the election for the prime minister held at the end of the last ordinary Diet session. This group is likely to be inaugurated around the SDPJ's extraordinary party convention scheduled on 3 September.

Among members working for establishing the new group are upper house member Shoji Motooka, who is a senior member of the SDPJ's "middle-of-the-road right wing" policy group "Democrats," and DSP Deputy Secretary General Tatsuo Kawabata. They served as representatives of the aforementioned committee. They have begun preparations "in hopes of making this group a link uniting the SDPJ and the DSP, although they allowed the inauguration of the LDP-SDPJ coalition administration."

In considering the fact that labor unions affiliated to Rengo [Japanese Trade Union Confederation] are divided over the question of which party they should support, the ruling SDPJ or the opposition DSP, senior officials of Rengo—which supports the Murayama administration on a "case-by-case basis"—intend to support the establishment of the group because they think it may result in reunifying the SDPJ and DSP forces.

The SDPJ side will invite the extensive participation of middle-of-the-road and right wing Diet members, particularly that of "rebel Dietmen," such as Motooka, who voted against Chairman Murayama in the last election. The DSP also expects most of its Diet members to participate.

However, following the shift in the SDPJ's basic policy, some party members are trying to reconcile the right wing with the left wing, saying "counterproductive conflict between the two camps over party policy has been settled," (according to Secretary General Wataru Kubo). SDPJ executives had tried to impose a relatively light penalty, a "serious reprimand" by the Central Executive Committee, on the 27 rebel Dietmen. They were concerned that "if Central Executive Committee members from the 'middle-of-the-road right wing' faction were forced to resign from the party over the stern penalty for their disobedience to the party's decision, they would head the establishment of a new party," according to a senior official of the "middle-of-the-road left wing" faction. The executive committee thus wants to avoid a party split. Therefore, depending on the number of participants, the establishment of the new policy research group is likely to become a factor that will destabilize the SDPJ.

Komeito Members To Join Planned New Party

OW0908091094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0848 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Matsue, Japan, Aug. 9 KYODO—Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida said Tuesday [9 August] only Diet members from his party will join the planned new giant opposition party in the initial stages.

"Participation by local assembly members should be seen as an issue for the future," Ishida said at a meeting of local party members in Matsue, Shimane Prefecture, western Japan. Ishida was referring to the new party that leaders of the former ruling coalition parties are planning to launch as early as September.

The Buddhist-backed Komeito, a core group in the former two ruling coalitions, has promised to join the new party that the opposition's primary strategist Ichiro Ozawa envisages will comprise nine noncommunist opposition groups as well as some members of the current three-party ruling coalition.

SDPJ To Debate 'Limited Defense' Concept

OW0908062394 Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 8 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] The Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] started deliberations on 7 August on incorporating the following points in the draft "basic security bill" it will propose in line with the change in its policy on the constitutionality of the Self-Defense Forces [SDF]: 1) the parameters of "minimum defense capability"; and 2) the "principle of limited defense" which limits the exercise of the right of defense to Japan's territorial land and seas.

The SDPJ plans to present the outline of the basic security bill as a "disarmament program" to the extraordinary party convention on 3 September. The main purpose is to legislate the principles it has pursued throughout the years—such as, a ban on the overseas dispatch of the SDF, and the nonexercise of the right of collective self-defense—and to achieve tangible results in disarmament. It will try to persuade not only the coalition parties but also the opposition parties to work to enact the bill.

The basic bill sets its aim as "the realization of Japan's security and world peace." It clearly states that "minimum defense capability" refers to: 1) the concept of limited defense; 2) the denunciation of nuclear arms; 3) a ban on the overseas deployment of the SDF; 4) the strict enforcement of civilian control; and 5) a ban on arms exports. Japan's policy of "minimum defense capability" is to be manifested through controls on defense spending and an armament level which does not threaten other countries.

The concept of "limited defense" is based on soul-searching by the SDPJ concerning the fact that the expansion of the SDF was permitted during past Liberal Democratic Party administrations through the erosion of the principle of "pure defense." It aims at proposing a stricter principle to accomplish the reorganization and retrenchment of the SDF in the future.

In the past, the SDPJ has avoided discussing this issue, claiming "this is tantamount to recognizing the SDF." The party's present decision to engage in deliberations on concrete issues is expected to enliven the debate on disarmament in the party and in the Diet.

Bureaucrat Known as 'Shadow Premier' Portrayed

OW0808034994 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 22 Jul 94 Morning Edition pp 10, 15

[Unattributed article: "Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara, the 'Shadow Prime Minister'"]

[Text] Politicians are completely engrossed in the continuing political realignment drama, while ignoring the public and saying whatever they please. Although Japan has had four different prime ministers in the past year, people's daily life has been little affected, because, as people say, bureaucracy-led administration is deeply rooted in Japan. Nobuo Ishihara, 67, is the man who has held the top post in the bureaucracy for six years and nine months. As deputy chief cabinet secretary, Ishihara has already served seven prime ministers. That is why he is now said to be the "incarnation of the government" or the "shadow Prime Minister." What kind of person is he? Every Morning Reporters Deluge Ishihara with Questions in Front of the Railway

Station Where He Catches the Train

Every morning Azamino Station in Midori Ward, Yokohama, is crowded with commuters for Tokyo, like many other stations located in the suburbs. The only difference is that here there is always a group of about 10 young people, each wearing a pen-shaped badge, the trademark of political journalists assigned to cover the Diet affairs. Every morning before seven o'clock, these young journalists gather in front of the station and wait for the little man who always comes to the station.

Today, like any other day, he was surrounded by the group of young journalists, who subjected him to a barrage of questions as soon as he stepped out of the taxi.

"Don't you have any further information about Kim Jong-il?" "Any comments about the Prime Minister's Diet remarks recognizing the constitutionality of the Self-Defense Forces?" "Any measures to cope with the drop in water supplies caused by the hot and dry spell?"

Without stopping, the man replied bluntly: "I make it a rule not to disclose the contents of information meetings; please direct your question to the Socialist Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ]."

He typically uses the following laconic answers when asked a question: "I don't know because I have heard nothing about it," or "I have nothing in particular to tell you."

The group of young journalists has only about five minutes to ask him questions before he gets on the jam-packed commuter train. Other commuters generally look suspiciously at this strange group of people who speak so seriously of state affairs so early in the morning. Some even take the man to be a famous speculator.

In the train, the man generally reads economic magazines or his documents. The young journalists take the same train, but no one speaks to him on the journey, following agreement between the man and these journalists whose beat includes Azamino Station.

Who is this man? He is deputy chief cabinet secretary Nobuo Ishihara, the top bureaucrat at the helm of "Japanese politics," and who is said to be the "shadow Prime Minister." When newspapers put the headline "Government Makes Decision" on the front page of their evening editions, the article is often based on the short interview with Ishihara held in the morning in front of Azamino Station. Although Ishihara sometimes leaks unconfirmed information, he is indeed a very important source of information. Unlike the irresponsible and easy statements made by politicians, Ishihara's short remarks are precious pieces of reliable information, because he is the "incarnation of the government." "Government Officials Should Not Talk Politics Because They Are Like the

Kabuki Stagehands Who Dress in Black to Be Inconspicuous"

The TOKYO SHIMBUN had an interview with Ishihara at his office, located at the Prime Minister's official residence.

"Several years ago, when the late Emperor Showa was confined to bed by illness, many journalists gathered every night in front of my house and stayed all through the night, in the hope of getting some information about the Emperor from me. As my family got really tired of this, I established a coverage rule. Since then, I have allowed journalists to ask for my comments every morning at Azamino Station. I think entertaining the media is also part of my job," Ishihara said. We are like Kabuki stagehands who dress in black to be inconspicuous and who assist the actors in various ways during the performance."

He said he always tries to be faithful to his beliefs, but added: "As I am not a superman, I sometimes let the cat out of the bag when I am very tired. When I see the outcome of my unguarded remarks in the evening newspapers, I repent of my carelessness, thinking to myself about the proverb that says, 'an Emperor's words, once given, can never be rescinded.' But after all, journalists gather every day at Azamino Station for that. That's their job."

Ishihara confirmed that he would never refuse any interview while in office.

In October 1993, when the Tokyo district public prosecutors' office entered the final phase of its investigation into the bribery scandals involving politicians and executives of general contractors, it was reported that Ishihara had passed the following remark: "The Tokyo district public prosecutors' office will probably not go as far as to arrest Diet members. Some heads of local governments have been arrested already, but Diet members will probably remain untouchable." This made big news.

Although Ishihara immediately held a news conference to deny the remark, the cabinet secretariat received a bunch of telephone calls from angry Diet members objecting that the remark proved nothing but that there had been "government and bureaucratic intervention in the affairs of the judicary."

"That was a simple misunderstanding on the part of a newspaper. I just talked to a young journalist who was a stranger to me, while on board a commuter train. I explained to him that "it would be difficult to prove the authorized limit of rights vested to a Diet member." This comment was erroneously transmitted to a journalist assigned to cover the Ministry of Justice. Later, the political editor of the newspaper that carried the comment in question came to my office to apologize for the mistake," Ishihara said, looking back on the past.

That was the first and last time in his long career as deputy chief cabinet secretary that his "political remark" caused a big stir, and Ishihara is proud of the fact.

Each prime minister has probably found Ishihara very useful as "Mr. Cabinet Secretariat," because he is very reliable and cautious.

On the evening of 29 June, when Tomiichi Murayama was named Prime Minister, Ishihara received a telephone call from Tsuruo Yamaguchi of the SDPJ, the present Director General of the Management and Coordination Agency, who was at his office. The two men exchanged the following words.

Yamaguchi: "Hello Nobuo. I'm sorry, but I have to ask you to stay in office. Please assist Mr. Murayama in his work."

Ishihara: "It would be not just for me to remain in office. I have to resign. Besides, I am not well acquainted with Mr. Murayama."

Yamaguchi: "There is no SDPJ member who knows the job of the cabinet secretariat. We were able finally to persuade Mr. Murayama to become prime minister by telling him that an expert like you would assist him in his work."

Ishihara: "Let me ask outgoing Prime Minister Hata and my senior friends working at the Ministry of Home Affairs for advice."

In the end, Ishihara accepted the request that he remain in his job to support new Prime Minister Murayama, the enemy of the previous government, until the new administration found its feet.

One of his old friends, who hails from the same province as Ishihara, strongly encouraged him to accept the offer. And Yamaguchi used the following telling phrase to prevail on Ishihara: "Please set aside your personal feelings and render service to your country."

Government officials born during the Taisho Era [1912-1926] generally yield easily to this call to duty.

"Thinking About the Stability of the Administration and Repressing My Personal Feelings"

"I hesitated considerably as to whether or not I should remain at my job. To tell the truth, senior officials at each ministry and agency had misgivings about the Murayama administration because of the unusual situation under which the Government was formed. I carefully thought about the continuity and the stability of administration, and I concluded that the right choice would be to repress my personal feelings and to accept the offer," Ishihara said.

Right after Prime Minister Murayama moved in, Ishihara said to him, "I cannot talk politics because, as a government official, I have to be on neutral ground. But, I have to tell you that the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] will not be able to get along with the SDPJ, if the SDPJ maintains the traditional policy advocated by its left wing. I want you to make concessions, because it is very important to secure continuity of administration."

According to Ishihara, Prime Minister Murayama, who belongs to the SDPJ left wing, replied: "All right. I know how I am placed, so please do your job as before."

On behalf of all conservative national public servants, including Self-Defense Forces [SDF] officials, Ishihara made it clear the new cabinet would make little headway under a prime minister who viewed the SDF as unconstitutional. Ishihara's advice probably helped Prime Minister Murayama to make up his mind. On 20 July, Prime Minister Murayama said before the Diet that he now considered the Self-Defense Forces constitutional.

Ishihara formerly had a strong aversion to the SDPJ, but now, he unabashedly gives the highest praise to the prime minister.

"Prime Minister Murayama is quite a plain, modest person. He never tries to show off. I cannot see any selfish motives in him. He is a person of noble character. I was fascinated by his personality."

Ishihara joined the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1952 (at that time, it was called the Local Affairs Agency), after graduating from the University of Tokyo, where he majored in law. He held various posts, such as general affairs department chief in charge of Okayama Prefecture, and director-general of the local tax bureau.

Before retiring from the Ministry of Home Affairs, he served as administrative vice-minister. After that he worked as chairman of a foundation called the Local Affairs Information Center. In November 1987, he took up his current post at the request of then-Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

"I Am the First Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary to Last So Long, But This Has Been Due to Rapid Changes in the Political Situation"

"When I took up my present post in 1987, the government seemed to be very stable, as Prime Minister Takeshita had a solid foundation within the LDP. So, I thought I would probably stay in office for three to four years. I continued to hold the same post under the government led by Sosuke Uno, and under the following government led by Toshiki Kaifu, because I considered both governments to be extensions of the Takeshita administration. Then came Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. He said, 'You should remain in office until the government bill on cooperation in United Nations peacekeeping operations clears the Diet, because the bill was prepared by you'.

"When Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa came in, he said, 'Please stay in office until the Diet passes the political reform package'. Then, Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata said, 'I need your help because we are a minority government. Please stay in office until the government becomes stable'."

The result is that Ishihara has been compelled to serve seven different prime ministers. He is the first deputy chief cabinet secretary to remain at the post so long. Ishihara has repeatedly said that his unusually long tenure in office was due to rapid changes and instability in the political situation.

There are two deputy chief cabinet secretaries: one is called parliamentary deputy chief cabinet secretary, and the other is deputy chief cabinet secretary. The post of deputy chief cabinet secretary is unfamiliar to the public. People generally do not know the name of the person who holds the post, except in the case of former deputy prime minister Masaharu Gotoda. Gotoda was already well known when he served as deputy chief cabinet secretary under the government led by Kakuei Tanaka. This post is traditionally held in turn by former administrative vice-ministers of the three ministries that derive from the pre-war Ministry of Home Affairs: the present Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and the National Police Agency.

The main duty of the deputy chief cabinet secretary is to serve as a liaison between the prime minister and each ministry. He also attends cabinet meetings. Twice a week, he organizes a meeting with administrative vice-ministers of each ministry, in order to help coordinate policies to be executed by each ministry, and settle inter ministerial troubles.

Ishihara's office looks as if it is the inner sanctuary of the prime minister's official residence. Senior officials from all 20 ministries queue up outside his office to get information, to ask for explanations, or to submit matters to his judgment.

Ishihara's "power" has increased considerably since the formation of a coalition government in the summer of 1993. There is no bureaucrat capable of objecting to the de facto policy-maker. This has been made clear. When Ishihara was asked, he was emphatic that he stood on ground very different from that held by politicians.

"I am, so to speak, the general manager of the bureaucracy. My duty is to make sure government officials execute the policies adopted by the cabinet. I am nothing but a mere government official," he said.

There are now several policy issues facing strong resistance from bureaucrats, including administrative reform, deregulation, and the decentralization of power. How will Ishihara conduct himself when carrying out these policies? People are concerned about this.

"I stand between politicians and government officials, but I am concentrating my energies on urging government officials to do something they do not want," Ishihara said.

However, he sometimes acts to protect government officials. When Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party] coleader Ichiro Ozawa, under the Hosokawa government, advanced his plan to create the new post of parliamentary councillor at each ministry, Ishihara strongly opposed it, saying Ozawa's plan was equivalent to "gainsaying the bureaucracy."

Ishihara complains that he has been extremely busy since the formation of a coalition government.

"During the era of one-party rule by the LDP, LDP subdivisions played a major role in adjusting the interests of each ministry. However, since the inauguration of the Hosokawa government, such adjustments have been made rather by the cabinet secretariat."

Ishihara often says: "I want to retire as soon as possible and spend my time traveling abroad." Despite his desire, the situation is not such as to permit him to resign from office for the time being.

Japan's bureaucracy-led administration will remain unchanged, so long as we continue to have a government that looks to Ishihara for help.

Editorial on Bureaucrats, Budget Compilation

OW0508130794 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 30 Jul 94 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Can Politicians Hammer Out a Budget Without Bureaucrats?"]

[Text] The ceilings have been decided by the government for putting caps on various ministries' budget requests for the next fiscal year. That is the first step taken by the coalition government led by Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], which is coming to grips with the formation of a national budget for the first time.

As was the case in the previous fiscal year, the ceiling for the next fiscal year permits a 5 percent increase on expenditures in the nature of public investment over the initial budget for the full year in fiscal 1994 in consideration of the need to boost the economy, while a severe limitation was put on routine expenditures, reducing them 10 percent. Given that tax revenues have dwindled for three consecutive years and the resultant severe circumstances in public finance, such tough restraints cannot be avoided.

The increase in the request for defense spending, the biggest focal point in the budget ceilings, was limited to 0.9 percent over the previous year, a drop from the previous year's ceiling of a 1.95 percent increase, as a result of the SDPJ overcoming opposition by the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]. The small increase in defense spending was intended to honor Prime Minister Murayama, who plunged into publicly stating that the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] are constitutional by changing his party's traditional position and wants to highlight the reduction of arms in the SDF instead.

However, the 0.9 percent increase in the ceiling on defense spending request is the same growth rate as the actual increase in defense spending for the current fiscal year. The draft document on the SDPJ's basic posture recently compiled by the party called for a negative increase in defense spending. In view of the international situation in the post-Cold War years, defense expenditures should have been reduced even further.

As for the government's official development assistance (ODA) to developing countries, the ceiling on the increase was 7.7 percent, approximately the same level as the previous year. While that is proof of Prime Minister Murayama's attaching importance to contributing to the international community in nonmilitary fields, further qualitative improvement in our external aid needs to be made by, for instance, increasing the portion of grants.

The Murayama administration is enthusiastic about regaining the initiative in the formulation of the budget, taking it from the hands of bureaucrats and putting it into the hands of politicians. It is right and proper for politicians to be actively engaged in the process of budget compilation, for which the government ministries and agencies begin to work out detailed requests toward the end of August.

However, politicians' initiatives should not lead to a revival of cozy relations between themselves, bureaucrats and business, as was seen under the single-party rule of the LDP and to unreasonable increases in budget expenditures.

In the course of deciding on the ceiling on budget requests, there was a chorus of demands for specially large increases in the expenditures on such projects as building new bullet trains from among members of the ruling parties. Such demands give rise to worries that the budget will again be organized in the traditional crowd-pleasing manner.

So a few words of warning are in order. First of all, politicians should never act as zoku-giin [protectors of particular industrial sectors and related government ministries in return for special favors].

The share of the public works projects allocated to each of the government ministries has long been more or less fixed for so many years partly because of the acts of politicians who back requests by particular ministries and industries. The inclination toward turf protection and compartmentalized mind-sets are deeply ingrained in the minds of bureaucrats.

Genuine leadership by politicians requires them to boldly set forth clear priorities in budget allocations, shed age-old conventions, so that emphasis will be placed on upgrading the infrastructure related to people's daily lives and to creation of new businesses, which are currently needed.

It is also important to enumerate "negative priorities," cutting down or winnowing out some of the conventional budget allocations.

Politicians' strong suit is to demand increases in budget allocations for this or that item. But given the limitation in revenue sources, all those demands cannot be met. Unless politicians are brave enough to demand decreases in some budget allocations, they will not be able to part with influence-peddling politics.

Another important point in the budget-making is to constantly take a fresh look at existing laws and regulations.

Budget requests for measures to be taken for farmers in connection with the partial opening of the rice market have been exempted from the latest ceilings. To reach a conclusion by September or a little later, a political decision must be made on how the staple food control system is to be reformed.

As preconditions for implementing reform in taxation, the Murayama administration has propounded promotion of reform in the government administration and public finance. That is the very thing that should be put into practice through the organization of the budget for the next fiscal year.

Making a budget without the bureaucrats' leadership is not so easy. Still, we want the new administration, which intends, in the words of Murayama in his general policy speech in the Diet, "to live with the people and learn from the people at all times," to buckle down to the difficult task.

MITI To Support Users of Solar Energy Systems

OW0908080794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0727 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Tuesday [9 August] it will provide financial incentives to users of residential solar energy systems as a way to spread the use of so-called "clean" energy in Japan.

The step is intended to financially help potential buyers of the next-generation power generation system that now costs about 6 million yen in initial investment including installation fees, a MITI official said.

An eligible user could get between 2.7 million and 4.5 million yen in subsidies via the new energy foundation in exchange for submitting monitoring reports to MITI for three years on a regular basis, the official said.

Due to extremely high initial cost, the use of solar energy systems in residential houses is at "negligible levels" in Japan, the official said, noting only about 10 Japanese households use such systems at present.

Without subsidies, someone who installs a solar energy system would lose an estimated 2.7 million yen by the end of a 20-year period, the maximum life of the system, the official said. "More than 30 years are needed before the system pays off," he added.

The official said MITI hopes the new incentive will help achieve the ministry's goal of expanding the diffusion rate of the solar power generation system for ordinary households to 10 percent by the next century.

About 2 billion yen is earmarked for the new step under the 1994 national budget. Application for receiving the subsidies will be accepted by the new energy foundation between Sept. 12 and Oct. 11, MITI said.

Commentator Questions Public Utility Fee Hikes

OW0808064594 Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese 4 Aug 94 Morning Edition p 6

["Just Argument" column by political commentator Taro Yayama: "Public Utility Fees Should Reform the Fee Systems"]

Reason for the World's Highest Living Costs

The Murayama administration has decided to unfreeze the increase in public utility fees early next year.

Japan's public service fees, including highway tolls and taxi fares, are the highest in the world. In addition, electricity and petroleum are also the most expensive in the world. As a result of high utility costs, Japan's living costs are the highest among advanced nations.

The Japan Highway Public Corporation [JHPC] determines toll rates according to a national pool system. Public service fees will continue increasing forever as long as the rates are determined by the present system. Such a systematic increase in public utility fees used to be tolerated because of the constant growth of the Japanese economy and individual incomes. Hereafter, however, the workers cannot expect constant wage increases as the nation's economic growth is slowing down. If the utility charges keep rising under such circumstances, consumers will be unable to bear the burden sooner or later. Therefore, the existing public fee systems must be drastically revised.

The JHPC uses the so-called toll pool system to determine expressway tolls. This is a system to charge users to cover the costs for constructing new highways. Yet, construction projects are actually carried on with public loans. In fiscal 1994, the JHPC will receive 1.86 trillion yen [Y] from government loans, but its own funds are only Y146 billion. In other words, Japan's expressways are almost completely made with borrowed money. The Japan National Railways [JNR] was bankrupted when the interests on its deficits exceeded its earnings. Sooner or later, the JHPC will certainly meet the same fate.

An Increased Consumption Tax Should Be Used As Revenue

The JHPC has a target to extend the nation's expressways to 11,520 kilometers. However, the total length of expressways in use just reached to 5,574 kilometers in the end of 1993. The JHPC is currently applying for government approval for toll increases because it has decided on a 10-year project to extend expressways by 1,184 kilometers. The project is expected to cost approximately Y10 trillion over the next 10 years, and this means individual expressway users would have to pay an additional Y1 trillion per year. If the JHPC continues to lay out expressways at the users' expense, individual users will certainly become unable to bear the burden in near future.

In Paris, metropolitan highways are free up to 20 kilometers from the city, and fees of highways are as low as 25 percent of those in Japan. Japan's high expressway fees push up distribution costs, and discourage personal trips.

Under the present system, to oppose toll hikes is to say people in rural areas do not need modern highways. The toll pool system is determined according to the benefit principle. In reality, however, drivers in the Kanto region wonder why they have to pay expensive tolls to pave new roads in Kyushu. Under the present system, consumers cannot be convinced of the need for toll increase.

I have a simple solution to the problem. That is to split the costs of constructing new highway systems among all the public, using the increased consumption tax as the revenue resource. When the consumption tax is increased by 1 percent, that would create a revenue of over Y2 trillion. The government should take charge of constructing new highway systems using the revenue resource. At the same time, expressways in use should be entrusted to private management. When expressways charge only maintenance costs, distribution costs would certainly be pushed down. This will benefit all consumers. The JHPC should be dissolved. Currently, JHPC's head office is located in the most expensive building in Kasumigaseki. The JHPC rents two floors of the building, but one- fourth of the leased area is occupied by a members' club called the Highway Club. The club is open for promoting friendship between retired Construction Ministry officials and executives of construction companies, but this actually is a hotbed of bid- rigging.

Experts say Japan's road construction usually costs twice as much as that of the United States. The high construction costs are caused by exclusionary bidding procedures. Hereafter, biddings must be held as public tenders to secure the visibility of the road construction business.

The increased consumption tax may also be used for the construction of new airports and bullet train lines. The charges for using the new Kansai International Airport reportedly amount to Y1.05 million for each flight because the airport was built on loans. Since charges at most Western airports are about Y50,000 to Y200,000, Kansai's high charges push up air fares. With respect to Kansai Airport, the government should cover at least Y1 trillion for reclaimation work.

No Hope for the LDP-SDPJ Government's Decision

Fares for taxis, public-operated buses, and subways are determined as the sum of costs and appropriate profits. But this calculation method allows an overestimate of costs. Telephone charges were raised almost every year when Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) was a public corporation, but NTT offered Y1.03-trillion charge cuts after denationalization. As the auditor, the Diet could not show the deep-rooted deficit-prone nature of the national telephone company. After the denationalization of the JNR into regional Japan Railway Corporations, those corporations liquidated JNR's long-standing deficits amounting to Y1 trillion without fare increases.

Public-operated buses and subways should be placed under private management where workers' rationalization efforts benefit themselves.

We are now entering into an era with no remarkable wage increase. Hereafter, we cannot rely on systems intended for endless economic growth. However, the coalition government led by the Liberal Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party of Japan is unlikely to go for drastic revision of public fare systems because those two parties cannot contradict labor unions and industrial circles.

Public Works Projects Declines 24.4 Percent

OW0908100594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0937 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—The volume of public works projects launched in June declined 24.4 percent from a year earlier to 1,341 billion yen for the second straight month of yearly declines, the Construction Ministry reported Tuesday [9 August].

The ministry said the decline was attributable to a delay in enactment of the 1994 fiscal budget. The ministry said public works projects initiated by the government and public corporations dropped 13.7 percent to 251.2 billion yen, while projects undertaken by local entities and regional organizations were down 26.5 percent at 1,089.9 billion yen.

Ultrafast Freighter To Set Voyage 20 Aug

OW0908111094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1015 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—A prototype of a hovercraft- model superfast freighter capable of carrying 1,000 kilograms of cargo at a speed of more than 90 kilometers per hour will begin its first long-distance test voyage on Aug. 20, shipbuilding sources said Tuesday [9 August].

The sophisticated, 430-ton freighter has been developed with the combined technological expertise of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. and Mitsui Engineering and Shipbuilding Co.

The techno super liner [TSL], named "Hisho" (Flight), will begin the 1,000-plus-kilometer journey from a Nagasaki shipyard to a Chiba port in Chiba Prefecture, company officials said.

The 70-meter-long, 18-meter-wide hovercraft has proved its speed during a test run off the Goto islands, west of Nagasaki, they said.

The freighter is expected to begin full business operations in the latter half of the 1990s. The freighter will stop at seven ports in seven prefectures—Oita, Miyazaki, Kagoshima, Kochi, Tokushima, Wakayama and Shizuoka, they said.

The municipal governments at each port city have applied to become regular ports of call for the ultraspeed ship, and city officials will visit the craft during its experimental voyage, they said.

The TSL, dubbed the marine version of the Shinkansen bullet trains of the Japanese railways companies, has support from the shipping industry and transport ministry.

North Korea

Results of Third Round of Geneva Talks Reported

SK0908040194 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0310 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks continued yesterday in Geneva. The talks took place at the DPRK Mission in Geneva.

After the talks, heads of the DPRK and U.S. delegations gave a news conference respectively.

First Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu, who is heading the DPRK delegation, made the following remarks at the news conference:

Today, the two sides held very sincere talks. The U.S. side advanced a proposal in the 5 August talks, and we, too, expressed our position.

The two sides examined the other side's position over the two-day weekend adjournment. Based on this examination, we advanced a new proposal in response to the U.S. side's proposal. Because our side's proposal was very concrete and important, the sides sincerely discussed it for as many as nine hours. Even though many complicated issues were raised during today's long discussion, progress was made on some issues.

The United States said that it would deeply examine and study today's proposal of ours.

The sides agreed to meet again on 10 August to hold talks.

In answering reporters' questions, Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu said: We have been the object of groundless nuclear suspicion because of the graphite moderated reactor. Therefore, we propose replacing the graphite moderated reactor with the light-water reactor. It is most important that we be provided with power stations using the light-water reactor in return for our freezing up [tonggyol] of the graphite moderated reactor.

Freezing the graphite moderated reactor is unthinkable without the supply of the light-water reactor. Compensation must be duly made for our freezing the graphite moderated reactor system. This is our just demand.

There are many complicated problems in [words indistinct] of our graphite-modulated reactor system. This is why the talks lasted for a long time.

In today's talks, we proposed a method that sets the international community at ease with regard to dealing with the fuel rods removed from the five-megawatt experimental reactor. I cannot disclose the details of discussions held on issues of handling and transporting the used fuel rods, supplying light-water reactors, prolonging the storage term of the used fuel rods in water tanks, and on which country's light-water reactor model will be chosen, because these issues are still being discussed.

He said: The final results of the talks will be revealed after the 10 August talks.

Robert Gallucci, head of the U.S. delegation and assistant secretary of state, told reporters the following:

The talks lasted nine hours and were clear-cut [kuchejok], businesslike [silmujok], and useful [yuik]. The sides studied [yongu] each other's position by taking a two-day recess following the 5 August talks.

In today's talks, the DPRK delegation put forward a very clear-cut and new proposal responding to the U.S. proposal. Progress was made in discussing some pending issues today. The sides agreed to hold talks again on 10 August after studying issues raised by each side and contacting their respective governments [ponguk] over a one-day recess.

Answering reporters' questions, Robert Gallucci said: The DPRK has put forward a clear-cut and new proposal with regard to the important issue of dealing with the used fuel rods. The DPRK proposal on light-water reactors is interesting and worth studying. I will study what was discussed in today's talks and contact our government.

He said that it was difficult for him to talk about the prospects for talks that are to be held on 10 August.

Nicaragua Hails Resumption of Talks With U.S.

SK0708082494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—The Foreign Ministry of Nicaragua issued a statement Tuesday welcoming the resumption of the third round of DPRK-US talks.

The statement says that the Foreign Ministry of Nicaragua announces that the government welcomes the resumption of the talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States of America.

It points out that the resumed talks will continue paving the way of international understanding of the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

Zimbabwe Group Urges ROK Not To Impede Talks

SK0908045294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—An organization of Zimbabwe accused the South Korean authorities of putting the brake on the third round of the talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States.

The Zimbabwe-Korea Solidarity and Friendship Association said in a statement that the South Korean authorities have brought forward a preposterous argument that the improvement of the North-South relations must be "a precondition" for the improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations at the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks, resorting to a sinister scheme to render the issue complicated and lay obstacles to the talks.

The statement noted:

The South Korean authorities are laying obstacles to the talks, grumbling again about its resumption arranged by President Kim Il- song in his lifetime. This shows that they have not a shred of conscience as Koreans.

If the DPRK-U.S. relations were improved through bilateral talks, a decisively favorable phase would be created in the North-South relations, too.

The South Korean authorities must promptly stop obstructing the DPRK-U.S. talks.

ROK Minister Criticized for Nuclear Remarks

SK0908045894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 9 Aug 94

["South Korean Rulers Must Not Obstruct DPRK-USA Talks"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—The South Korean "Foreign Minister", Han Sung-chu, speaking over the television network on August 7, came out with the absurd demand for "a probe into the past nuclear activities of the North", again provoking the North, according to a Seoul-based radio.

This revealed the sinister political intention of the South Korean rulers to bar the progress of the third round of the DPRK-USA talks at any cost by creating an artificial obstacle.

It is illogical for the South Korean rulers to try to blindly edge themselves into the DPRK-USA talks, crying for "a probe into the past" and "precedence of North-South dialogue". This is an obtrusive and shameless folly.

This reckless act vividly shows how desperately the South Korean rulers are trying to obstruct the DPRK-USA talks. In a nutshell, this reveals their uneasiness and fear as regards the progress of the talks.

Not without reason did VOICE OF AMERICA say when the world community is warmly welcoming the start of the high-level talks between the United States and the DPRK, only South Korea is worried about this and secretly seized with serious uneasiness.

Anyone in the grip of uneasiness and fear loses reason. Han Sung-chu openly shook his fist at the international community, grumbling that "the international community including the United States keeps mum about the past portion of the nuclear activities of the North". This is an intolerable challenge to the international community which hopes for a solution to a series of pending problems including the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula in a package deal.

No matter how hysterically those driven ashore may kick and scream, the big river flows constantly.

The South Korean rulers must look squarely at the flow of the times and stop doing nasty things to bar the progress of the DPRK-USA talks.

ROK Criticized for 'Army Supply Exercise-91'

SK0808054194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 8 Aug 94

["'Army Supply Exercise-94' in S. Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—The Kim Yong-sam group staged an "Army Supply Exercise-94", according to a radio report from Seoul on August 6.

Through this provocative war game, the traitorous group reportedly "examined and replenished the wartime support capacity under the condition of a real war" and "assessed the capacity of supporting in supplies and equipment and the capacity of loading and transporting supplies under the present system".

The criminal war game of the South Korean rulers who are rushing headlong toward a war against the North, going against the flow of reconciliation and unity, peace and reunification between the North and the South, is arousing a bitter indignation of the nation.

Sochongnyon Holds Grand Reunification Festival

SK0608063994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—More than 700 students of the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils (Sochongnyon) held the fourth grand reunification festival at Hanyang University on the evening of August 4, defying suppression by the Kim Yong-sam traitor clique, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The function had been scheduled to be held at Seoul Municipal University. When the fascist clique threw a police force of more than 1,000 men into the university and barred students from entering it, not allowing the function, Sochongnyon quickly shifted its venue to Hanyang University.

At the function Sochongnyon decided to hold the pan-national rally from August 13 to 15 in defiance of any suppression by the fascist clique, expressing their will to demonstrate the ardent desire of the nation for reunification.

Hanchongnyon Calls Seoul News Conference 5 Aug

SK0608070994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon) Friday [5 August] called a press conference at Konkuk University in Seoul and declared its decision to hold the reunification festival of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghaknyon) for three days from August 13, though the "government" did not allow it, a Seoul-based radio said.

Hanchongnyon charged that the present "government" authorities were cracking down upon the reunification movement of purely civilian nature, alleging that it (Hanchongnyon) is "manipulated" by the chuche idea group "behind the scene."

ROK Students Vow To Hold Pannational Rally

SK0708083194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0814 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—More than 600 students of the Pusan-South Kyongsang Provincial Federation of General Student Councils (Pugyongchongnyon) held a reunification festival at the Pusan College of Foreign Studies on the evening of August 5, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The participants in the festival bitterly condemned the authorities' suppression, charging that the "government" is cracking down upon the debate of the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon) and other democratic forces on reunification, describing it "pro-communism benefiting the enemy."

They vowed to make efforts to hold the pan-national rally slated for August 15.

Commentary Denounces ROK for Blocking Rally

SK0908133194 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1224 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Commentary by Yun Pyong-son: "The Indiscreet Rash Act of Anti-Reunification Elements"]

[Text] The day on which the fifth pan-national rally will be held is approaching with each passing day.

The fifth pan-national rally will be greatly devoted to the great work of vigorously propelling the nation's desire for reunification and to achieving reunification in the nineties. All fellow countrymen unanimously hope the pan-national rally will be grandly held as the nation's common festival. In conformity with the nation's expectations and desires, organizations of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] in the North, South, and overseas are putting the finishing touches on preparations for the rally to guarantee its success. However, the South Korean ruling bunch are the only ones who maneuver and run wild, trying to frustrate the rally by mobilizing every possible means.

According to reports, on the morning of 6 August the Kim Yong-sam fascist group drove countless police forces into six buildings at Pusan University, including the Student Hall, waging a brutal search under the pretext of searching for pamphlets for the pan-national rally, and so on. By so doing, the police perpetrated a violent act by confiscating some 1,300 demonstration items and placing 12 students behind bars.

Prior to this, the fascist ruling bunch acted outrageously by turning down the request by the South's headquarters for the promotion of the pan-national rally, refusing them contact with the North's delegates in a third country to celebrate the opening of the fifth pan-national rally. This is part of their maneuver to frustrate the fifth pan-national rally. It goes without saying this was perpetrated according to the repressive order of the Kim Yong- sam treacherous group to repress and block the fifth pan-national rally.

The fascist clique is acting violently by releasing balderdash, saying the pan-national rally is a political function outside the purely civilian reunification movement, and that it is not conducive to a practical improvement in North-South relations. This is nothing but a far-fetched argument to block the pan-national rally at any cost.

The pan-national rally, as the title implies, is a national plaza of dialogue for reunification which binds the nation's aspiration and will for reunification into one, transcending differences in ideology, ideas, political views, and religion. The rally is also a place of national reconciliation and unity aimed at carrying forward the nation's disconnected lineage and at ending the history of division which has lasted for almost half a century. The pan- national rallies which were held four times in the past are clear proof of this.

No one can doubt that once the pan-national rally is held as the nation's common festival, it will become a turning point not only in North-South relations, but also for the future road of national reunification.

Nonetheless, the Kim Yong-sam group is acting recklessly by brandishing guns and swords, and by claiming the rally is a political function and thus not helpful. This is an intolerable challenge to the desire and will of 70 million fellow countrymen for reunification, and is a never-to-be-condoned criminal act to block the nation's major step toward the road of reconciliation and unity.

The Kim Yong-sam group is talking about reconciliation and reunification. However, in actuality it is a treacherous group which does not welcome national reconciliation and unity. Its only intent is to pursue North-South confrontation and division.

How can we say that those who block students from contacting their fellow countrymen in the pan-national rally have the will for reconciliation and unity? Likewise, who can say they have the will for reconciliation and unity when they brandish guns and swords out of the fear that a plaza of dialogue for reunification, such as the pan-national rally, may be arranged?

Today the movement for national reunification has become a nation-wide movement showing no regard for class. National reunification is not something that will happen in the distant future, but is becoming a reality before our eyes.

All fellow countrymen are pushing ahead the strong current of the movement for reunification by becoming a motive force of reunification. No one can block that movement. Regardless of the the fascist clique's brutal suppression, the 15 August pan-national rally will be held without fail. This is the unwavering will and resolve of the South Korean youths, students, and people.

The Kim Yong-sam fascist clique should squarely see the nation's aspiration and the trend of the times, and should not act recklessly. In addition, it should open the road so the pan- national rally can be held without a hitch. If it continues to go against reunification with bayonets, the pro-reunification forces will unfailingly throw the Kim Yong-sam group onto the trash heap of history.

'Fascist Offensive' Alleged

SK0908102394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 9 Aug 94

["Fascist Outrage Against PNR Condemned"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—The South Korean fascist clique are now intensifying the fascist offensive to bar at the point of bayonet the opening of the upcoming August 15 pan-national rally (PNR) in Seoul, calling it "a political function," while launching a brutal "scorched-earth" offensive against the chuche idea group of students and other pro-reunification democratic forces as a whole.

In this regard, papers here today say it is nonsensical to incriminate the pan-national rally, branding it as a "political function", and it is a sophism to suppress those who want national reconciliation and reunification.

A NODONG SINMUN analyst says:

By blocking the PNR in which the whole nation is interested, the Kim Yong-sam group stands naked, glaringly revealing its ugly color as a group of traitors and anti-reunification elements who must no longer be left within the nation.

The fascist clique, foreseeing the day of their destruction in the South Korean people's sentiments running toward alliance with communism and with the North and reunification, are desperately seeking a way out, brandishing the sword at random at the pro- reunification democratic forces.

However, the public sentiments are the will of heaven and nothing can block the public sentiments aspiring after reunification.

The South Korean rulers must promptly stop barring the opening of the PNR at the point of the bayonet, clearly mindful that the harsher their suppression of the pro-reunification patriotic and democratic forces, the earlier their destruction.

MINJU CHOSON says it is only too natural that the 70 million fellow countrymen are keeping tabs on the blackest crimes of the Kim Yong-sam group, calling for striking out from the membership list of the nation the group ignoring even the good manners and customs handed down through generations and ethics and morality.

ROK Groups on Suppression of 'Democratic Forces'

SK0708082994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—More than 130 students of universities and colleges and members of labour and citizen organisations in Taegu and North Kyongsang Province, South Korea, recently issued a declaration on the situation denouncing the fascist clique for creating "a political situation for new public security-oriented rule" and mercillessly cracking down upon the democratic forces, according to a South Korean press report.

The declaration on the situation charges that the "reform" advertised by the Kim Yong-sam "government" disappears and the "government" reveals its reactionary nature undisguisedly.

It warns that in case the present "government" resorts to the fascist dictatorship in disregard of the strong protest of the people, the students of university and colleges and members of labour and citizen organisations of Taegu and North Kyongsang Province will wage an all-out struggle for the resignation of the Kim Yong-sam "government" together with all the people.

Pro-Kim Chong-il Placard Said Seen in Kwangju

SK0908052994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—A placard and literature warmly revering and praising the dear leader

Comrade Kim Chong-il appreared in Kwangju, according to the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation quoting information of the South Cholla Provincial committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front.

The large placard five metres long and 1.5 metres wide in the name of the fellowship society of patriotic soldiers was put up on the road leading to the first combat flying corps of the puppet army on the early morning of July 27.

Written in luminous yellow letters on the upper part of the luminous-trimmed grey placard were "We have General Kim Chong-il, a famous general produced by heaven with literary and military accomplishments and loyalty and filial piety combined in him."

Written below in deep blue letters were "Truce is not peace. Let's no longer be mercenaries of U.S. Forces. Let's smash the anti-North hysteric campaign of the 'civilian' fascist group of Kim Yong-sam!"

Written on the back side in luminous green letters were "Let's accomplish the noble cause of reunification under the leadership of ever-victorious general Kim Chong-il! Fellowship Society of Patriotic Soldiers."

Leaflets nine cm long and six cm wide carrying the same words were scattered around the barracks of the soldiers of the First Combat Flying Corps and the nearby village.

ROK Professors Reportedly Praise Kim Chong-il

SK0808054094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—South Korean people highly praise the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as a great master of thought and theory, saying "if one wants to know a great thinker, a great statesman, a great hero and a great man of the present times, one should read his biography and works."

Professor Yi of Seoul National University told his disciples:

"On my foreign trips, I keenly felt the real meaning of the wise saying: It is not that a big country produces a great man but that a great man produces a great nation.

"It is a trend to avidly read works of the dear leader Kim Chong- il in the East European countries where socialism has collapsed.

"It is the noblest duty and obligation of our Korean nation to worship and follow the dear leader Kim Chong-il whom the world admires."

A university professor in Seoul said:

"As unanimously stressed by the students who read 'On the Chuche Idea', a work of the dear leader Kim Chong-il, truth breathes in this work, a philosophy underlies it, and an idea powerfully pulsates in it which is replete with gem-like famous sentences.

"It is a famous work without parallel in history.

"He is, indeed, a great thinker and theoretician who is throwing rays on the world history of thoughts."

A student in Seoul said:

"It was not until I learned the deep-going philosophical principles of the immortal chuche idea that I appreciated again the value of life and find a course of life.

"The idea and theory of the dear leader Kim Chong-il is a tonic which helps man find his value and exalts the consciousness of independence, the lifeline of the nation, a great charter which unites the strength of the nation into one and an immortal torchlight brightly lighting the road of the nation."

Placard Revering Kim Il-song Displayed in Kwangju

SK0608070894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—A placard in the name of the "Patriotic Youth Society for Reunification" was hung out at a suburban bus parking lot in Kwangju, South Korea, on July 25, according to the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation quoting an information of the South Cholla Provincial Committee of Hanminjon [South Korean National Democratic Front].

Written on top of the white placard two metres long and 80 centimetres wide were letters reading "President Kim Il-song, the tender-hearted father of the 70 million fellow countrymen, will live forever in the hearts of our people".

"Let us uphold the heaven of Tangun nation!

Let us follow our leader Kim Chong-il, president of reunification!" were written in red letters in the lower part of the placard.

Hanminjon Officials Visit Kim Il-song Statue

SK0908053594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—Officials of the Pyongyang mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) including its chief Yi Chong-sang visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on August 8 and laid a bouquet before it on lapse of one month since he passed away.

The officials of the mission observed a moment's silent tribute to the memory of President Kim Il-song, the tender-hearted father of the 70 million fellow countrymen who had devoted his whole life solely to the freedom and happiness of the people and to national reunification, the supreme desire of the nation.

Yi Chong-sang said that the sudden death of the great leader President Kim Il-song was the deepest sorrow and greatest loss of the nation. The faith that the fatherly leader is always with us, however, settles down in the hearts of the vanguard fighters of Hanminjon and the South Korean people, he added.

Pointing out that the slogan "We will win because we are guided by you" is loudly ringing out from all parts of South Korea, he said:

The South Korean people are determined to resolutely safeguard respected general Kim Chong-il in response to the behest of the great leader and are firmly convinced that as long as there is the supreme commander, the reunification of the country will certainly be achieved under any circumstance.

He said that he would more daringly fight to reunify the country in the 1990s under the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and expressed his determination to remain loyal to general Kim Chong-il on this road.

Relationship Between Mun, Kim Il-song Studied

OW0808091094 Tokyo AERA in Japanese 8 Aug 94 pp 16-17

[Article by journalist Yoshio Arita: "The Unification Church's Economic Inroads: Mun Son-myong's Calculation"]

[Text] On 14 July, Pak Po-hui, the publisher of the South Korean WORLD DAILY, who is a close associate of Mun Son-myong, founder of the Unification Church, visited the Kumsusan Assembly Hall where President Kim Il-song's casket lay in state. The names of Reverend Mun Son-myong and his wife, Han Hak-cha were on the wreath which Pak placed in front of the casket.

It was in late 1991 when the strange relationship began between Reverend Mun Son-myong, who had founded the Victory Over Communism League and had been promoting a movement to defeat socialism, and President Kim Il-song.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) at that time was said to have accumulated debts of $5.2 billion, and trade with the former Soviet Union, which had been the greatest aid-providing country, had changed from barter to cash settlement. North Korea suffered from a shortage of hard currency, and economic problems kept mounting.

North Korea then approached the Unification Church in an attempt to quickly obtain capital. Ms. Pak Kyong-un, chairperson of the Kumgangsan International Group, which also has a foothold in Tokyo, proposed that Secretary Kim Chong-il invite Reverend Mun Son-myong to North Korea.

Promise of "Aid" Paved Way for North Korean Visit

At secret meetings at China's Beijing Hotel, held on 8 and 16 November 1991, (then) Deputy Prime Minister Kim Tal-hyon and Pak Chong-kun [name as published], president of the Kumgangsan International Group and a close associate of Kim Chong-il, attended from the North Korean side. Pak Po-hui represented the Unification Church.

According to an informed South Korean source, the North Korean side sought a donation of $150 million as a condition for allowing Reverend Mun to visit North Korean. The offer by the Unification Church side was said to have been $3.5 billion.

Thus the anticommunist Reverend Mun Son-myong's North Korean visit was realized. Reverend Mun's party, which entered Pyongyang 30 November 1991 in a special plane from the Beijing airport, met with President Kim Il-song during the course of its stay, which continued until 7 December.

The result of the two and a half hour meeting was a four item agreement, which dealt with: 1) The separated families issue; 2) the nuclear inspection issue; 3) economic aid to North Korea, and 4) the North-South summit meeting.

Three of these points were national-level issues. What the Unification Church could achieve was, in reality, economic "aid." In the document of agreement, it was stated that the "Unification Group will aid North Korea's peaceful economic undertakings."

Even though he made a commitment which was pleasing to North Korea, Reverend Mun remains an anticommunist to the core. For Unification Church members who are "God's soldiers called to be the vanguard in the battle for victory over communism," communism is the "enemy of God, even before it is the enemy of mankind." So it must be "denounced, and its sin must be eliminated from the earth" (according to a speech made by Reverend Mun on 7 June 1975)

"Holy Land Pilgrimage Tour" Being Organized

Moreover, Reverend Mun declared in his speech of 26 January 1992 that "Kim Il-song has become a red king and...is standing at the edge of a cliff on its left wing corner."

The objective of the Unification Church was to change the North Korean-style socialist structure from within by using economic power and to cause it eventually to crumble. At the same time, as an immediate task, it wanted to boost its believers' morale.

In August 1991, Reverend Mun sent all the believers an order for "returning home." That was an order that they go back to where they had come from, find work, and propagate the religion to relatives and friends. Reverend Mun is originally from Chongchu in North Korea.

Reverend Mun, who visited North Korea, went to his home town and designated the place as the "holy land." The believers were taught that their doctrine had prevailed since the founder of the religion himself had realized the plan of "returning home," and, in addition, had met and talked with President Kim, who was the object of being "overthrown." And in 1992, a "holy land pilgrimage tour" was organized for believers in Japan, and outside capital was brought in to North Korea.

However, because of suspicion concerning nuclear weapons, the sightseeing tours were stopped. So, for the present, they are not developing as initially planned. But the investment precedent has been quietly continuing.

Reverend Mun talked about economic issues such as the development of Kumgangsan tourism, development of the Tumen river, and so on during his meeting with Chairman Kim. He mentioned hotel management as a concrete issue. That is the background for the nationally run Putonggang Hotel and Ansangak Hotel located in Pyongyang coming under the management of the Unification Church in November 1993. The general manager and assistant manager are Japanese believers. They have been conducting business which uses the claim of divine inspiration in Japan. The plan is that Kanmyongson Hotel is to be built in three years. "Kanmyongson" is Secretary Kim Chong-il's pen name.

Activities of the "Asia Project"

Kumgangsan International Group, which is led by Chairperson Park Kyon Yun, purchased the hotel. The Koryo People's Industry Development Association, which is led by Secretary Kim Chong-il, mediated. At the Putonggang Hotel, about 10 Japanese Unification Church members provide guidance to about 250 local employees, and all were sent as employees of the Kumgangsan International Group.

The Unification Church members belong to the "Asia Project" which is organized by believers. This is an organization which targets the socialist countries. "Panda Automobile" in China, "Mekong Automobile" in Vietnam, economic advancement into North Korea, and so on, are among its activities.

Motoo Furuta is the man in charge. He is the president of "Happy World," which has imported vases, miniature pagodas, and "Ilhwa" condensed Korean Ginseng liquid, which are sold using business tactics which rely on a claim of divine inspiration. A former senior member of the Unification Church testifies also that Furuta is the vice chairman in charge of economics, a fact which the Unification Church has not made public.

In late January this year, Furuta visited North Korea along with Reverend Mun associate Pak Po-hui and International Group Chairperson Pak Kyong-un and held a meeting with Prime Minister Kang Song-san.

Someone reported that he had heard from Chairperson Pak Kyong-un that "she would buy a hotel with Unification Church money." Judging from the people involved, there is even a possibility that funds collected utilizing business practices which claim divine inspiration could have entered into North Korea.

The activities of the Unification Church designed to attempt infiltration of North Korea will become even more energetic in the future. North Korea, lead by Kim Chong-il, is trying to use Unification Church funds. But as long as the North Koreans are looking at things simply through an economic prism, they will not understand the true aim of Reverend Mun and the Unification Church.

Biography of Kim Il-song in Foreign Newspapers

SK0608053794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Brief biography of the great leader President Kim Il-song was carried by Russian paper PODMOSCOVYE, the Netherlandish paper MANIFEST, the Australian papers CANBERRA TIMES, SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, THE AUSTRALIAN and THE AGE and the Senegalese paper RENOUVEAU POLITICIEN.

Belgian Delegation Visits Kim Il-song Statue

SK0808054394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—A friendship delegation of the Belgian Committee for Solidarity With Korea headed by its secretary general Marie Godeleeve Lemmens, visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on August 7, to honor his memory.

After laying a wreath, the visitors observed a moment's silent tribute to the memory of President Kim Il-song who had dedicated his whole life to the freedom and liberation of the people, to world peace and to the friendship and unity among the peoples.

The head of the delegation said that President Kim Il-song was a great man who made an undying exploit for the cause of socialism. "The great President Kim Il-song is with us and will always be with us in the future," he added.

He expressed the firm belief that the Korean people who have risen up, changing their deep sorrow into fresh strength and courage will successfully accomplish the cause of socialism, remaining loyal to the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

That day, the delegation visited the revolutionary martyrs cemetery on Mt. Taesong and presented a bouquet before the bust of Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an anti-Japanese heroine and indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, expressing deepest reverence.

The delegation arrived in Pyongyang on August 6.

Kim Il-song Praised as 'Tender-Hearted Father'

SK0908044894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0408 GMT 9 Aug 94

["President Kim Il-song Is Always With Korean People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—The slogan "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song Is Always With Us" is seen everywhere in Korea.

These immortal letters reflect the unshakable faith and will of the Korean people to keep the benevolent image of President Kim Il-song always in their hearts and accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche started by him, although he passed away.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"Ours is the true leader of the people with noble virtues of deeply loving the people."

A great leader enjoys deep respect and trust from the people for his extraordinary personality and feats.

President Kim Il-song was the tender-hearted father of the Korean people peerless in their national history spanning several thousand years. All of his feats are brilliant ones admired by all the people.

The proud creations and wealth in all parts of Korea are associated with his immortal feats and love.

So, the Korean people think of President Kim Il-song when they see flowers in full bloom in spring and when they walk paths running across fields promising rich crops.

The president devoted his whole life to the people, undergoing all the trials, and felt greatest joy and happiness in the growing happiness of the people. He was really the symbol of all victory, glory and happiness of the Korean people.

This is why the whole country burst into bitter sobs the moment they heard the sad news of his death in July, that came like a bolt from the blue.

All the Korean people, men and women, old and young, went to his bier and statues with ardent reverence and deeply mourned his death, looking up to his affectionate image and wailing.

Though many days have passed since the end of the mourning period, his statues on Mansu Hill in the central part of the capital city of Pyongyang and other parts of the country are visited by an endless stream of people day and night.

This is a reality noblest ever in history the like of which can be seen only in the people who formed an inseparable, integral whole with their leader on the basis of the same thought and purpose, morality and obligation.

Indeed, President Kim Il-song was the destiny of the Korean people and their father.

President Kim Il-song was always kept in the minds of the people and they were in his mind.

For the Korean people he was the mental support and the symbol of invincibility and will always remain the great sun that illumines their way and gives them strength and courage.

Though the Korean people bade their last farewell to President Kim Il-song, they have Comrade Kim Chong-il, the illustrious leader who has fully inherited his revolutionary idea, leadership traits and noble virtues.

For them President Kim Il-song is immediately Comrade Kim Chong- il, and vice versa.

While carrying on the revolution under the guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il for many years, the Korean people have become deeply aware of his greatness and wise leadership.

Comrade Kim Chong-il regards it as his lifelong duty to carry to accomplishment the revolutionary cause of chuche started by President Kim Il-song.

The Korean people see the affectionate image of the president in the appearance of Comrade Kim Chong-il and are optimistic not only about the present situation but also about the future with confidence as they are guided by Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is leading the socialist cause of chuche always to victory with steel- like grit and will and tested leadership.

President Kim Il-song is always with us.

Art Exhibition Portrays Leadership of Kim Il-song

SK0808101594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—An exhibition of works of art portraying the great leadership traits of the respected leader President Kim Il-song is open in Pyongyang.

Displayed at the exhibition are more than 80 works showing the leadership traits and immortal exploits of the great leader in accomplishing the historical cause of the liberation of the country by leading the heroic anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to a brilliant victory, taking upon himself the destiny of the country and the nation, and establishing the socialist system of Korean style centred masses on this land, and the energetic guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea over the revolution and construction.

The oils "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song Declaring the Founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army" and "You Must Show the Might of the Koreans" and the Korean painting "Generalissimo Kim Il-song, an Ever-Victorious, Iron-Willed Brilliant Commander, Personally Commanding the Battle on Height

1211" and other paintings show well the great appearance of President Kim Il-song who defeated two imperialisms in one generation.

On display is also the Korean painting "The Dear Leader Comrade Kim Chong-il Proclaiming the Modelling of the Whole Society on the Chuche Idea" representing the noble leadership traits of Comrade Kim Chong-il who is successfully carrying forward to accomplishment the revolutionary cause of chuche started by the great leader.

Among the works is the Korean painting "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the Dear Leader Comrade Kim Chong-il Unfolding Strategies for the Korean Revolution and the World Revolution" which shows the undying feats performed by them for the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification and global independence.

Talk Lauds Kim Chong-il as Center of Unity

SK0708131994 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0628 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Unattributed talk: "People's Song Looking Up to the Great Leader [yongdoja]"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught: Under the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, our revolution has come to a new era of upsurge.

The entire country is seething like an active volcano under the leadership of the great Comrade Kim Chong-il. In every part and corner of our country, people who are firmly united around the great leader [widaehan yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il are vigorously feeding the flame of new miracles and innovations in all domains of socialist construction. [music]

Our people, who feel deep in their hearts the value of the leader [suryong] through their actual life, are filled with firm faith to walk along the single road of loyalty forever upholding the great leader [widaehan yongdoja]—the center of unity. The fatherly leader had the great Comrade Kim Chong-il firmly stand in the center of unity for our revolution.

The more we look up to him, the more our hearts are swelling with springing respect and admiration. There is an unforgettable story in our deeply moved minds.

One day in the early stage when the Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il led the general affairs of the party and state, an anti-Japanese revolution fighter, who met with the dear comrade leader upon his summons, was talking to a functionary. The functionary asked if the old fighter had any particular reason for respecting the great Comrade Kim Chong-il. The old fighter said: There are three reasons why I respect the dear comrade leader. First, his high leadership that is superbly leading the entire party and country and all the people. Second, the outstanding comprehension with which he reads four lines at a time. Although I do not know much because I studied at a village schoolhouse in the old days, I think people are supposed to read one line at a time. The dear comrade leader reads three or four lines at a time and understands all the contents. That is how he can properly handle so many documents he had to approve. Is there any better genius in Korea? I think there is no one other than the dear comrade leader. Third, the capacious mind with which he can converse familiarly and openmindedly with any worker or person. The dear comrade leader is the one who does not insist on formality. Comrade Kim Il-song truly loved and warmly cared about us, the fighters, during the days of the guerrilla struggle. The dear comrade leader is exactly the same. How can he not be respected? The extraordinary leadership, wisdom of genius, and benevolent and capacious mind. I am completely fascinated by these three characteristics. That is why I truly respect the dear comrade leader.

The old fighter, who followed the great leader and walked along the thorny path of revolution since the anti-Japanese days, plainly expressed his humble experience and depicted the greatness of the dear comrade leader. We have matchless self-esteem and pride because we are upholding in the center of the unity of our revolution the greatest man Comrade Kim Chong-il, who receives unanimous respect and trust from all the people, from the old anti-Japanese fighter to ordinary workers and peasants.

Since the day he was at the front of revolution, our people admired his humane traits and outstanding leadership, which attracted the people at once. That is why all the people absolutely trusted him, followed, and worshiped him with pure childlike minds. The people are spontaneously following and looking up to him due to his immortal achievements of the times and revolution, and his great traits. Having him in the highest position of the party and revolution is the greatest happiness and honor enjoyed by our people only.

What would have happened to the destiny of our country and all of us if we did not have the great Comrade Kim Chong-il in the center of unity and the leadership of revolution, which is being continued generation after generation? Socialism was frustrated in countries that had been proud of their old revolutionary tradition. The lesson from history teaches us how precious is the people's pride and happiness because of living in the chuche fatherland where the center of unity is solidly inherited.

Thus, our people are defending Comrade Kim Chong-il—the greatest brain and heart of revolution—with our lives out of faith and will, forming one undetachable harmonious body with him, repelling any difficulties, and vigorously advancing revolution. [music]

Because we have the great center of unity, our unity is firmer and mightier when the revolutionary generation is changed. Our people unite toward the center of unity even though trials and difficulties are on the way. The loyalty is deeply reflected in the humble letters sent by the people of our country, including workers, peasants, technicians, soldiers, youths, and students, to the great Comrade Kim Chong-il.

A few years ago, the Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il emotionally talked to functionaries about our people's high mental world in which people are continuously sending him letters of resolution, including the one from the eight brothers of Pak Yong-chol, officer of the Korea People's Army, who vowed to become eight rifles and bombs. The great leader [widaehan yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il warmly told the functionaries that, in the past, when our revolution was on trial, the old woman in Kaesong gave strength to the respected and beloved leader, and that, today, numerous Kaesong old women of the nineties are giving him confidence and strength. Kaesong old women of the nineties. This expression highly apprises the ardent loyalty of our people, who firmly trust only the party and the leader and follow them to the end of the world.

The people's minds looking up at and following the center of unity are so true and deeply dutiful that there are people who saved the portraits of the fatherly leader and the Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il in a fire. There are so many heroic fighters who laid down their young lives for precious revolutionary comrades, and there are ranks of youth who volunteered for the most difficult and laborious domain of socialist construction to cultivate the flower of loyalty.

Our people are breaking through the piled difficulties and accelerating socialist construction with the might of single-hearted unity firmly united around the great Comrade Kim Chong-il, effecting changes of the century in all domains, and building up a victory tower of socialism high in a corner of the East.

When the fatherly leader was alive, he said Comrade Kim Chong-il extraordinarily strengthened the main force of our revolution and brought about a golden age on this land. He taught that the eternal key of victory of socialism lies in upholding the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il. Following the great center of unity is the most rewarding work elucidating our lives, and granted propriety of revolutionary fighters who share life and death with the leader [suryong].

Yes. Because we are advancing while upholding in the center of unity the Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is the symbol of great victory, there is nothing in this world that can break the might of our single-hearted unity, and the harmonious unity between the leader [suryong], the party, and the people.

In the past, our people have overcome any storm and trial because they were united around the fatherly leader like iron and thus have elucidated the protracted road of revolution with victory and glory. On the road of upholding the great Comrade Kim Chong-il generation after generation, our people will unite more firmly, as a diamond that controls iron, and will complete the cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland, the socialist cause, and the chuche revolutionary cause without fail. [music]

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Workers, Teachers

SK0608104894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Chong-il, the illustrious leader of the Workers' Party and the people of Korea, extended thanks to the teachers and students of Kim Hyong-chik University of Education and to machine workteam No.1 of the tool shop of the Pyongyang textile machine plant.

The teachers and students of Kim Hyong-chik University of Education presented to the great leader President Kim Il-song in July "The green pine tree on Mt. Nam", a calligraphic and pictorial album on the centenary birth anniversary of Kim Hyong-chik, who was an outstanding leader of the anti-Japanese national liberation movement in our country and an indomitable revolutionary fighter.

Informed of this, Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to them.

The members of machine workteam No.1 of the tool shop of the Pyongyang textile machine plant have overfulfilled their yearly economic assignments on all indices for thirty years since they registered Comrade Kim Chong-il as the honorary member of their workteam and become a collective faithful to the party, winning the title of twice three-revolution red flag workteam and the triple model machine workteam for emulating lathe No. 26.

They recently wrote a letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il carrying their determination to remain loyal to the party and the leader.

After reading the letter, Comrade Kim Chong-il highly appreciated their loyalty.

Kim Chong-il's 'Chuche-Oriented View' Discussed

SK0808125394 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0200 GMT 6 Aug 94

[From "The Ray of Chuche" program: "The Chuche-Oriented View and Standpoint of the Status and Role of the Leader (Suryong) in the Revolutionary Struggle"]

[Text] The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has established a chuche-oriented view and standpoint regarding the status and role to be assumed by the leader [suryong] in the working class's revolutionary struggle.

The chuche-oriented view and standpoint of the status and role to be assumed by the leader in the working class' revolutionary struggle is that the leader plays a decisive role and assumes an absolute stance in the working class's revolutionary struggle.

The leader assumes an absolute stance in the working class's revolutionary struggle. An absolute stance as assumed by the leader in the working class's revolutionary struggle is an outstanding stance assumed by the leader over a sociopolitical body in which the leader, the party, and the masses are united ideologically in an organized way.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: As an individual's center of life is the brain, a sociopolitical group's center of life is the leader, its highest brain. The leader assumes an absolute stance in the working class's revolutionary struggle because the leader is the highest brain of the popular masses, and the center of unity and cohesion.

The leader is a center which not only analyzes and summarizes the popular masses' independent demands and interests, thus uniting them as one, but also provides unified guidance to the popular masses' creative activities in order to realize their independent demands and interests.

The leader being the highest brain of a sociopolitical body as well as its center can be concretely expressed by the fact that he offers ideas and theories to the popular masses and unites them ideologically in an organized way. The leader is the highest brain who offers ideas and theories to the popular masses.

In order for the popular masses to become the masters of the revolution possessed of independent ideological consciousness, there should first be the highest brain of ideas and theories which presents the revolutionary idea reflecting their fundamental demands and interests, and which elucidates the goal, direction, and methods for thinking and practice. The leader is the popular masses' highest brain which elucidates such ideas and theories. The leader is the center of unity and cohesion who ideologically unites the popular masses in an organized way.

In order for the popular masses to become the driving force of the revolution united in one sociopolitical body, there should be a center of unity and cohesion which can bind them as a single political force on the basis of one purpose, one interest, and one idea. The leader is the center of such unity and cohesion. The leader is the greatest realizer of the independent demands and interests of the working class and the popular masses. Being the greatest leader [yongdoja] of its realization, he becomes the center of organizational unity of the working class and the popular masses. Likewise, being the founder of revolutionary ideas which sum up the independent demands and interests of the working class and the popular masses, the leader becomes the center of ideological unity. In this way, the leader is the highest brain and the center of the popular masses.

The leader also plays a decisive role in the working class's revolutionary struggle. Playing the decisive role in the working class's revolutionary struggle, the leader regulates the role of the popular masses who are the driving force of the revolution and construction.

Generally, the popular masses are the ones who create and develop history. However this does not mean the popular masses naturally join in the revolutionary movements and thus change society.

Only when the popular masses receive scientific strategic and tactical guidance, and are organized and awakened, can they become a powerful motive force as a vigorous creator of history, and rise up to the road of struggle.

The higher the level of the popular masses' awakening and systemization in any of the revolutionary movements, the greater the role played by them and the mightier their forces become. Accordingly, it becomes a fundamental demand of the working class' revolutionary struggle to present the revolution's leading idea; to awaken the popular masses, both ideologically and politically; and to bind them as a single political force in a bid to organize and mobilize them to the revolutionary struggle.

Since the leader is the only one who can fulfill this fundamental demand, he plays the decisive role in the working class' revolutionary struggle.

Above all else, the leader of the working class presents the revolution's strategy and tactics, initiates the revolution's leading ideas, and awakens the working class and the popular masses by reflecting the law of historic development, the desperate demand of the time, and the aspiration of the popular masses. In so doing, the leader elucidates to the working class and the popular masses the future road of struggle.

The leader of the working class also realizes the popular masses' unity and cohesion, and thus prepares them as a powerful revolutionary force.

By putting forward the correct revolutionary idea, which reflects the independent demand and intention of the popular masses, the leader provides an ideological foundation that can bind them with a single idea; he provides an organizational foundation for the popular masses' unity and cohesion by establishing revolutionary organizations, including the party, and by creating the pivot of the revolution within the flames of the revolution.

Thanks to the leader taking on such a role, the popular masses can be raised as the independent driving force of the revolution which embodies the power of ideological, conscious, and organizational unity, thus playing its role as the motive force of the revolution. In addition, the leader of the working class leads the revolution to victory by organizing and mobilizing the popular masses to the revolutionary struggle using tested strategic and tactical leadership as well as unified guidance.

The leader takes hold of all fronts of the revolutionary struggle in a unified manner, and scientifically analyzes the revolution's subjective and objective conditions at every stage and every period of the revolution. Based on this, he puts forward the correct tasks for the struggle and the ways to implement them, and organizes and mobilizes the popular masses to achieve their realization.

Thanks to the leader's unified guidance and tested strategic and tactical leadership, the popular masses have come to play their role and fully perform their responsibilities in the revolutionary struggle, and have come to wage the revolutionary struggle purposefully along the correct road of victory.

In this way, the leader plays the decisive role in the revolutionary struggle by awakening and organizing the popular masses, and by mobilizing them to the revolutionary struggle.

The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has established a scientific view and standpoint regarding the stance and role assumed by the leader in the working class' revolutionary struggle. Hence, the mighty ideological and theoretical weapon has been prepared, enabling the popular masses to hold the leader's [suryong] leadership in high esteem, and to wage the revolutionary struggle creatively and independently.

Essay on Loyalty to Kim Chong-il Leadership

SK0908103994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 9 Aug 94

["Hearts Beat As One"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN August 8 comes out with a political essay titled "Hearts Beat As One" which says that the heart of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is powerfully beating in the hearts of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and our 70 million fellow countrymen.

The last one month since the sudden news that the heart of the great leader stopped beating came like a bolt from the blue was a month in which the Korean nation shed copious tears in pain and made many oaths, gripped by deepest sorrow in the nation's history spanning 5,000 years, the political essay says, and continues:

Today, our singlehearted unity is one around dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who is successfully carrying forward the cause of the great leader to accomplishment.

Let us accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, singleheartedly united around the dear leader, not forgetting our oath to the great leader.

This is one faith and the unanimous will which has been rooted and multiplied in the hearts of the Korean people after the fatherly leader passed away.

Our pledge and will of singlehearted unity is all the more valuable and significant because we have made it in the historical moment when we bade the last farewell to the fatherly leader and acclaimed respected Comrade Kim Chong-il as the sun with deeper reverence.

Although Korea lost its great leader, everything is normal and the faith and will to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, united around the dear leader in one mind, is pulsating more powerfully than ever.

Over the last one month, the minds of the Korean people constantly ran to the statues of the great leader and to the building of the party Central Committee where the dear leader works. A great many people sent letters carrying deepest trust and consolation to the dear leader.

The dear leader read all the letters and sent replies in his own handwriting extending thanks and encouragement to them, busy as he was with directing the overall work of the party, the state and the army.

After seeing on the TV screen the haggard look of the dear leader standing as a guard of honor by the bier of the fatherly leader, a general of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces told his children that it was an indelible heavy crime of the revolutionary soldiers not to have guarded the health of the fatherly leader. He, jointly with his wife, wrote a letter to respected Comrade Kim Chong-il, expressing their earnest desire to send their children to the most difficult posts to guard the safety of the dear leader and realise his intention. After reading the letter the dear leader sent the following reply in his own handwriting to them:

"...I am grateful for your warm consolation.

I assure you that, together with my revolutionary comrades, I will do my utmost to accomplish the cause of the leader with strength and courage.

Kim Chong-il"

In the last one month, upon receiving wild insam (ginseng) and other precious medicines from revolutionary soldiers for his longevity, the dear leader expressed thanks to them and took care that they were sent to hospitalized soldiers.

The people are in the mind of the leader and the leader in the minds of the people.

Even at the moment when they felt as if sky fell and their hearts stopped beating upon hearing the sad news of the death of the fatherly leader, our people did not lose their unshaken confidence, thinking that they have the dear leader, and rose up, wiping off tears, before the bier of the leader, though overcome by grief, because they thought of the dear leader.

There is the faith and obligation of unity where there is a great man.

Our faith and obligation of singlehearted unity is that of upholding the behests of the fatherly leader and that of believing and following the immeasurable greatness of the dear leader.

Our people have experienced the greatness of the dear leader through their practical life and absolutely trust and follow him.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is an illustrious leader who remained boundlessly loyal to the leader who pioneered the revolution and infinitely faithful to the party and the revolution, the country and the people, the great heart of Korea who set it as his lifelong mission to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche started by the great leader and steadfastly maintain the blood of the revolution in any adversity and a great heart of our nation who is leading the nation to victory, assuming responsibility for its destiny.

No matter what wind may rage, we will reunify the country and accomplish the cause of chuche, united around respected Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great heart and destiny of the nation, in one mind.

Lecturer Praises Kim Chong-il Leadership

SK0908111594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1058 GMT 9 Aug 94

["People's Cause of Independence Started by President Kim Il-song Will Be Accomplished as Long as It Is Guided by Comrade Kim Chong-il, Kenichi Ogami"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—Kenichi Ogami, secretary general of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and permanent chairman of the Japan Society for the Study of Kimilsongism, gave a lecture at Kim Il-song University on Monday [8 August].

Present on the occasion were Yi Chi-su, president of the Chuche Idea Academy, and officials concerned and teachers and students of the university.

Prior to the lecture, the participants observed a moment's silence in memory of the great leader President Kim Il-song, who authored the immortal chuche idea in his early years and wisely led the efforts to accomplish the cause of global independence and human liberation with its bright rays, performing undying exploits for the time and history.

The lecture of Kenichi Ogami was on the theme of studying the revolutionary idea of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

In the first part of his lecture, he said that President Kim Il- song will be alive among the people forever. He said:

President Kim Il-song was a great revolutionary who dedicated his whole life to revolutionary activities and performed imperishable feats in human history.

His immortal exploit is that he ushered in the era of independence.

After embarking on the road of revolution, he paved the way for the Korean revolution independently and waged a struggle and in this course he founded a new revolutionary idea, the chuche idea.

His revolutionary idea is an integral system of idea, theory and method based on the philosophical principle of chuche that man is the master of everything and decides everything.

The practical significance and universal value of the chuche idea and its great viability and vitality have been proved in the course of the Korean revolution, socialist construction and dissemination of this idea worldwide.

President Kim Il-song victoriously led the 20 years of arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, defeated the heinous Japanese imperialism and liberated Korea from its colonial rule.

The revolutionary traditions established during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle have served as an organisational and ideological basis for victoriously promoting the Korean revolution and construction, and they are a precious heritage in human history.

Under the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song, all people in Korea formed a large family full of love and trust. He built the revolutionary Armed Forces of the people supported by a high degree of political consciousness, a powerful independent national economy, the socialist countryside and chuche literature and art whose masters are the people.

President Kim Il-song set many examples and performed great exploits in the revolution and construction in a long period, which will remain in history. They can be said to be a present made by President Kim Il-song to the next generation of Korea and the world people.

President Kim Il-song was a true man and a paragon of a communist.

He graphically showed what sort of a man a revolutionary who fights for the independence of the masses must be.

President Kim Il-song kindly treated not only revolutionary comrades and comrades-in-arms but also politicians who had been hostile to the Korean people in the past, and led them to live a worthy life.

President Kim Il-song was a model of a communist and a paragon of a true man.

He provided a decisive guarantee for accomplishing the people's cause of independence. He founded the chuche idea, solved the question of succeeding the revolution and brought up the great successor to the revolution.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is the successor to the revolution and the leader of the new era who will accomplish the cause of President Kim Il-song.

Bright is the future of the progressive people of Japan and the world who struggle for the independence of the people, as they have Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, regarding the idea and line of President Kim Il-song as his faith, gave concrete guidance to apply them in all spheres of the revolution and construction.

The international prestige of Korea is rising higher than ever before and world attention is directed to Korea. This is a result of the outstanding ideological and theoretical activities and leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The people's cause of independence started by President Kim Il- song will certainly be accomplished as long as it is guided by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

In the second part Kenichi Ogami said Comrade Kim Chong-il is the greatest leader in the present time who is leading the cause of independence to victory and a model of communists who deeply loves and trusts the people and shares the same destiny with them.

He further said:

He has developed and enriched the revolutionary idea of President Kim Il-song in conformity with the new stage and demand of the revolution and construction and expounded a great revolutionary idea that makes it people to bring the revolutionary struggle of the present time to a final victory.

He made it clear that the driving force of the revolution is of greater significance than the objective situation and condition in the revolutionary struggle, completed the chuche-based theory on socialism and clarified the features of the ideal society of mankind and ways to build it.

He said the ideal society of mankind is a society in which nature, society and human beings have been transformed as required by the chuche idea, a society which has been modelled on the chuche idea.

The first criterion of the ideal society required by the chuche idea is a society in which the independence of man is defended, the people are masters of everything and the state organs and all the fields of the society serve them.

It is not merely an equal society but a society where all the people are united on the basis of love and trust and they develop together, helping and leading each other forward.

Comrade Kim Chong-il gave a new exposition of modern imperialism and the independence of the world and is now indicating the ways of building a new world independent and peaceful and winning the victory of socialism worldwide.

One of the great feats performed by Comrade Kim Chong-il, the leader of the revolution, is that he has brought the creativity into full play by strengthening the party and enhancing its leadership role.

He saw to it that the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, have been accelerated vigorously, with the result that a great upsurge has been effected in socialist construction of Korea.

He has performed a great feat in military field, too. Today the Korean People's Army has strengthened and developed to be invincible revolutionary forces united in one mind around Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander.

What is particular in his feats is that he has turned the whole society into a socio-political organism in which the leader, the party and the masses formed an integrated whole, an organism in which the people are united on the basis of revolutionary comradeship and obligation.

The socialist society of Korea is a society where the party and the masses are if perfect harmony with Comrade Kim Chong-il as the centre.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is the leader of the people who deeply loves and trusts the people and faithfully serves them. He conducts all his activities by enhancing the consciousness of the popular masses in reliance on their political and ideological awareness.

We can say that this is another character of his activities.

Comrade Kim Chong-il keeps to independence and the principled stand toward imperialism under any complicated situation.

As long as it is guided by him, the cause of the independence of the popular masses will surely win the final victory.

In the last part the lecturer expressed the resolution to make a deep study of the revolutionary idea of Comrade Kim Chong-il and fight for the independence of Japan and the world and for the bright future of mankind.

He stressed that Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great leader of the era of independence and a universally recognized leader of the world people.

He said it is the internationalist duty for those who are struggling for the independence of the popular masses to defend Korea which is materializing the ideal of mankind with Comrade Kim Chong-il as the centre of unity and widely introduce and propagandize its real appearance among the Japanese and world people.

Army Officers Vow To Be Loyal to Kim Chong-il

SK0908023794 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1000 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Excerpts] One month has passed since Generalissimo Kim Il-song, the great father of the nation whom our people had met and upheld for the first time in the several thousand years-long history of our people, the benevolent teacher of soldiers of our People's Army, and the ever-victorious, iron-willed commander, left us. At a time when all the people across the country are visiting statues of the great leader and feeling the loss of the fatherly leader with each passing day, gray-haired general officers who followed the leader [suryong] in traversing the road of hundreds of millions of ri and young fighters who are soldiers of the People's Army, are constantly visiting the statue of the great leader at Kim Il-song Military University, with bouquets of flowers.

Amid the playing of mourning music, officers and men of the People's Army respectfully laid many wreaths and bouquets of flowers before the statue of the leader and paid silent tribute to the great leader, cherishing his memory.

Kim Chang-yong, general officer of the Korean People's Army [KPA] and Mun Chu-ho, KPA officer, say:

[Begin Kim Chang-yong recording] One month has passed since the great leader, our soldiers' benevolent father, left us. However, the wound to our minds are not being eliminated, but further deepening with each passing day. [passage omitted]

We cannot express our guilty conscience and heartbreaking feelings of having failed to uphold the great leader in the plaza of national reunification. We vow from the bottom of our hearts that we will achieve, without fail, national reunification that the fatherly leader desired so much and that we will give him a report of victory in achieving national reunification on the day when we uphold General Kim Chong-il, the respected and beloved supreme commander, in the plaza of national reunification. [end recording]

[Begin Mun Chu-ho recording] Yes, that's right. We think the day when we can report victory before the statue of the great leader is not too distant. Our ability to turn the sorrow of having lost the great father of the nation into strength and courage is precisely because we uphold General Kim Chong-il.

Because the respected and beloved supreme commander General Kim Chong-il, the great man among great men [wiinjungui wiin] and the military commander of the military commanders [yongjangungui yongjang], is with us, our soldiers, not to speak of our people, have nothing to fear under any difficult circumstances.

The respected and beloved comrade supreme commander is the ever- victorious, iron-willed commander who is inheriting and glorifying the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song's cause. He is an excellent military strategist, [words indistinct], and the great sun of all men.

Soldiers of our People's Army, as the matchless, powerful new generations upholding the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il who is a distinguished general of the world, will achieve, without fail, national reunification which the generalissimo desired so much during his lifetime under the leadership of the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il. This is precisely the firm faith and will of our soldiers.

Our leader has not passed away. The great leader lives eternally in the hearts of our soldiers. Our soldiers are firmly resolved to perform duties as the supreme commander's army, the party's army, and the people's army. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Foreign Media Praise Kim Chong-il's 'Greatness'

SK0908053094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—Foreign mass media published articles praising the greatness of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The Russian paper VETERAN carried an article titled "Comrade Kim Chong-il Is Supreme Leader of Korean people."

The paper said:

Comrade Kim Chong-il is creditably carrying forward the revolutionary cause started by President Kim Il-song.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is the supreme leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who is looking after the party affairs, the state affairs and the social life of the country as a whole.

Comrade Kim Chong-il has performed immortal exploits for the time and revolution, the country and the people in accomplishing the cause of socialism.

He enjoys highest respect from the people and has the absolute authority among the people as their supreme leader for his tested art of leadership, noble virtues, intense loyalty and devotion to the country and the people and his exploits.

The Nicaraguan paper EL NUEVO DIARIO said in an article titled "True Leader of Korean People Kim Chong-il, Image of Great Man":

It can be said that His Excellency Kim Il-song made the Korean nation and the Korean revolution stand up, and His Excellency Kim Chong-il has consolidated socialism of Korea with his wise and tested leadership.

In a word, His Excellency Kim Chong-il, the leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, is a great thinker and theoretician, outstanding military strategist, true leader intensely loyal to the cause of socialism and symbol of the desire and will of the Korean people for peace.

The Malian paper AURORE, the Burkinabe paper LE PAYS and the Tunisian paper as SABAH carried articles introducing the greatness and leadership exploits of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The Nepalese paper MAJADUR KISSAN devoted one whole page to a special writeup under the title "Successor To Revolution Who Rose in Sky of Korea" with a portrait of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Kim Chong-il Replies to South, Overseas Koreans

SK0908112294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent messages to compatriots in South Korea and overseas in reply of their condolence messages on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The reply messages were sent to An Ho-sang, leader of Tangun Taejonggyo of South Korea; Sin Chang-kyun, permanent advisor to the Preparatory Committee for the Formation of the South Side Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon); Yu Won-ho, a personage of South Korea; Rev. Mun Ik-hwan's widow Pak Yong-kil, chief director of the assembly of the 70 million fellow countrymen for reunification; Yi Chang-pok, permanent chairman of the National Alliance for Democracy and Reunification; Mun Son-myong, president of the World Peace Federation; Yim Chang-yong, advisor to the One Korea Movement in the Americas; Syngman Rhee, president of the Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America; Yun I-sang, chairman of the Overseas Headquarters of Pomminnyon; and Son Tal-won, a Korean businessman in Japan.

Comrade Kim Chong-il in the messages expressed thanks for their deep condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song.

He also expressed the belief that they would conduct energetic patriotic activities for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, the lifelong desire of President Kim Il-song as well as the cherished desire of the entire nation.

Rally Pledges To Accelerate Tomb Renovation

SK0908060594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 28 Jul 94

[Text] A construction workers' rally was held yesterday at the site to uphold the will of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song by expediting the completion of the Tangun tomb renovation.

Comrade Kim Yun-hyok, vice premier of the State Administration Council; Comrade Pak Nam-ki, chairman of Pyongyang City Administrative and Economic Committee; functionaries concerned, construction workers, and Kangdong county working people attended the rally.

Responsible secretary and chairman of Pyongyang City Party, Kang Hyon-su, delivered a speech at the rally, and Choe Chong-il, chief of staff at the Tangun Tomb Renovation Command, Yi Ku, manager of the Yonggang granite mine, and Han Yun-su, director-in-chief of the Pyongyang Railway Bureau, participated in the debate.

The speaker and the participants in the debate said that the rally of construction workers was being held to implement the direction of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il given on 13 July 1994 to expedite the completion of the Tangun tomb renovation according to the behest of the respected and beloved leader, at a time when all people of the country are effecting a new revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction by turning their greatest grief with the loss of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song into a thousand-fold strength and courage. They stressed that expediting and completing the Tangun tomb renovation at the highest level are honorable and important combat tasks to bring the lifetime intent of the leader into full bloom. The speaker and debaters said that the Tangun tomb is an eternal monument which is being renovated according to the lifetime plan of the great leader and that they will bring the fatherly leader's noble intent into full bloom by ensuring that the quality of the Tangun tomb renovation be guaranteed at the highest level by strictly following the technical and standard rules of operation and by applying advanced construction methods.

A letter of pledge was adopted at the rally.

'Great Upsurge' in Industrial Output Reported

SK0508222294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 5 (KCNA)—The Korean working people are effecting a great upsurge in production by changing their deepest grief at the loss of the father of the nation into a thousand-fold strength and courage.

In the ten days following the national memorial service on July 20, the nation's industrial output value shot up 2.6 times as compared with the first ten days of the month.

In this period, the coal output increased 2.2 times, power output 18 percent, the output of pig iron and steel 5 percent each, rolled steel output 3 percent and railway turnover 12 percent.

The timber output went up 7.1 times and cement output 2.1 times in this period.

Remarkable successes were also reported from the chemical, machine-building, electronic automation and light industries.

The nation's total exports increased 1.6 times in the period.

Increase in Volume of Shipping Reported

SK0808053794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—Marine transport workers of Korea are effecting innovations in shipping by changing their sorrow at the loss of the great leader President Kim Il-song into thousand-fold strength and courage.

According to data available at the Ministry of Marine Transport, the volume of domestic shipping jumped 26.5 percent and the volume of trade shipping 6 percent in recent ten days above the figures of the same period of the previous month.

In this period, the Taedonggang and River Transport General Bureau of the Ministry of Marine Transport has additionally carried tens of thousands of tons of cargo outside the plan by meticulously organising and commanding transport.

Freight traffic volume at Nampo, Hungnam, Chongjin and other ports is 4 percent greater than the plan.

War Victory Day of Korean People Marked Abroad

SK0608220594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1525 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Meetings were held in different countries on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the great fatherland liberation war.

Manik Lal Shrestha, chairman of Nepal-Korea Friendship Association, noted that the United States suffered a shameful defeat in the Korean war and it fell on its knees before the Korean people for the first time in history.

The Korean people owed the victory in the Korean war to the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il-song, an outstanding brilliant commander, he stressed. Narayan Man Bijukchhe, chairman of the Nepal Worker and Peasant Party, said in his speech:

"Today the party, the state and the Army of Korea have dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who enjoys absolute support and trust, as the supreme commander. He took charge of the affairs of the party, the state and the Army long ago.

"The Korean people will win victory in the future, too, as in the past war and achieve national reunification".

Minister of National Defence of Guinea Abdourahmane Diallo, speaking at a soldiers' meeting in Guinea, expressed the hope that Korea would certainly be reunified in the future according to "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" put forward by President Kim Il-song.

A meeting was held at the Madagascan institute for the study of chuche-based idea on literature and art.

Messages of greetings and solidarity letters to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were adopted at the meetings.

Paper: Asian Peace Depends on Peace on Peninsula

SK0908104394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 9 Aug 94

["Peace and Security in Asia Depend on Guarantee of Peace on Korean Peninsula, NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—What is important in guaranteeing peace and security in Asia is to ensure peace and security on the Korean peninsula, declares NODONG SINMUN in a by- lined article today.

Because, it continues, the Korean peninsula is a most acute hot spot in Asia. In the Cold War era the United States deployed vast aggression Armed Forces and nuclear weapons in this region and pursued a policy of aggression and war on the pretext of "threat of communism". Attaching importance to the Korean peninsula in executing its aggressive Asia strategy, it turned South Korea into a most dangerous aggressive military base and nuclear base in Asia.

The constant arms buildup and war rackets in South Korea have had a grave influence on peace in Asia, not to speak of peace on the Korean peninsula.

Though the Cold War is said to have come to an end, there remain aggression Armed Forces and nuclear weapons in South Korea. Armed Forces are being reinforced in and around South Korea on the pretext of the fictitious "nuclear issue" of the DPRK.

The bellicose elements are attempting to impede dialogue for a fair solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula and stifle the DPRK with strength. This is a dangerous act of carrying the situation on the Korean peninsula to a new phase of confrontation and war.

If the situation takes a turn for the worse and an unexpected incident occurs on the Korean peninsula, it cannot but have a grave influence on the overall situation of Asia.

Unless peace and security is guaranteed on the Korean peninsula, the maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Asia can never be expected.

When the legacies of the Cold War are totally removed on the Korean peninsula and a durable peace and security is guaranteed, the factor of most dangerous instability and the cause of war will disappear in Asia and a free and peaceful new Asia be built successfully.

Delegation From Japan Meets WPK Secretary

SK0608070694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers'

Party of Korea, Friday [5 August] met and had a friendly talk with the leading members of a delegation of the Japan National Liaison Council of Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's Works headed by Masaji Ie, a professor of Kobe University of Foreign Studies, who is chief advisor to the council.

Gives Stone Plate to Chuche Tower

SK0708083394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0818 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—The National Liaison Council of Japan Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's works donated a rare stone plate to the tower of the chuche idea in Pyongyang.

Written on the white marble are red letters reading "Long live the great Comrade Kim Chong-il!"

A ceremony for donating the stone plate took place at the tower Saturday.

Masaji Ie, head of the visiting delegation of the National Liaison Council, said at the ceremony: "We donate this rare stone plate to the tower of the chuche idea because we deeply respect his excellency the illustrious leader Kim Chong-il, regarding him as the only one who can lead the present time."

"We have actively worked since we formed the National Liaison Council of Japan Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's works in Japan in February," he said. "We will certainly win in our struggle as long as we have His Excellency Kim Chong-il as the leader of the revolutionary cause of chuche."

He expressed the belief that the formation of the National Liaison Council would set up a great milestone in propagandizing and disseminating the ideas and theories of His Excellency Kim Chong-il all over the world. He sincerely wished His Excellency Kim Chong-il, the leader of the revolution, a long life in good health.

Meets With Reporters 8 Aug

SK0908053494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—The members of the delegation of the Japan National Liaison Council of Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's works with Masaji Ie, professor of Kobe University of Foreign Studies and chief advisor to the council, as its head and Kenichi Ogami, permanent chairman of the Japan Society for the Study of Kimilsungism and secretary general of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea, as its advisor met with reporters here Monday.

The head of the delegation said the purpose of the delegation's visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was to express condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Noting that President Kim Il-song was a great leader of the world, Masaji Ie said he devoted himself to the non-aligned movement and the democratization of the society.

Pointing out that a new world order began to be established in the present time under the leadership of President Kim Il-song, he said that though he could not see the establishment of a new world order, his cause will surely be accomplished because there is respected Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Nobuko Watanabe, deputy head of the delegation, said:

"Though this is my first visit to Korea, I have deeply felt that Korea is a country where true human love reaches the life of all the people. So, I firmly believe that only when the chuche idea which has been applied to Korean-style socialism under which the people enjoy a genuine life is disseminated worldwide, will a true peace, progress and prosperity of the world be achieved."

Kenichi Taira, deputy head of the delegation, said Korean-style socialism led by Comrade Kim Chong-il is a true socialism centred on the popular masses. "The chuche idea is the greatest guiding idea representing not only the present time but also the future of mankind," he added.

A member of the delegation, Taichi Bigami, said they presented rare quality stones to the tower of the chuche idea. He further said:

"It was our unanimous desire to present stones bearing the name of respected Comrade Kim Chong-il to the tower of the chuche idea, the symbol of the chuche idea. "This is because only he, the illustrious leader of the present time, can guide the new century. We will, in the future, uphold him with deeper respect and make a positive contribution to the cause of making the world independent under his guidance."

Kenichi Ogami declared that under the guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il, who fully personifies all the natural gifts of the great leader President Kim Il-song, the cause of global independence will successfully be accomplished.

Noting that his longevity is unthinkable apart from the happiness of mankind, he said the world progressive people wholeheartedly wish him good health and long life.

Delegation From Japanese University Arrives

SK0708085194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—A delegation of Japanese Ritsumeikan University headed by Hiroharu Seki, director of the Board of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and professor of Ritsumeikan University, arrived here on August 6 by plane.

Visits Mansu Kim Il-song Statue

SK0808050194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—A delegation of Ritsumeikan University of Japan headed by Hiroharu Seki, director of the board of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and professor of the university, visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu hill in Pyongyang on August 7 to honor his memory.

The members of the delegation laid bunches of flowers before the statue of President Kim Il-song and observed a moment's silence.

The head of the delegation said:

"The great leader President Kim Il-song played a great role in turning the world political situation to a new phase. He was a great statesman and outstanding leader whom no great man in history could match.

"The great exploits he performed for mankind will be handed down to the posterity.

"We are firmly convinced that the revolutionary cause of chuche started by the great president will be successfully accomplished under the wise guidance of his excellency the dear leader Kim Chong-il.

Japanese Group Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il

SK0708085494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—The dear leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Chong-il received a floral basket from Kenichi Ogami, secretary general of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and adviser to the National Liaison Council of Japan Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's works, on a visit to Korea.

Kenichi Ogami handed the floral basket to Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Saturday.

Australian Committee Bulletin Marks Solidarity

SK0608104594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—The Australia-DPRK committee published a special issue of its bulletin on the occasion of the month of international solidarity with the Korean people.

The bulletin carries articles headlined "Welcome to talks on Korean peninsula issue," "Don't obstruct," "Position of Australia" and "Stable economy" introducing the economic development of Korea.

In the article titled "Don't obstruct" it recalls that the Japanese and South Korean authorities insisted on the solution of the issue of "special inspection" of the DPRK military sites at the third round of the DPRK-USA talks. Their real objective is to lay obstacles to the talks and, furthermore, justify and promote their own nuclear armament, it notes.

In the article headlined "Position of Australia" it urges the Australian Government to make all possible efforts to help in the successful progress of the DPRK-USA talks.

Committee Officials Fete German Party Leader

SK0608053494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—The Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Friday [5 August] gave a reception for Dr. Achim Rohde [spelling of name as received], member of the leadership of the Free Democratic Party of Germany [FDPG] and chairman of the group of the FDPG in the Nordrhein-Westphalen State Assembly [SPA], on a visit to Korea.

Present at the reception were Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA, Yi Chong-hyok, chief councillor of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA, and others.

Speeches were exchanged at the reception which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kyrgyzstan-DPRK Association Inaugurated

SK0708081294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0807 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—An inaugural meeting of the Kyrgyzstan-DPRK Friendship Association took place at the conference room of the Kyrgyz Federation of Societies for Friendship and Cooperation with Foreign Countries.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

Amanbayev, vice-chairman of the government, was elected chairman of the association.

Papers Mark Singapore Independence Day

SK0908053794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—Papers here today observe the 29th anniversary of the independence of Singapore.

MINJU CHOSON in a by-lined article says that the Singaporean people embarked upon the new road of development after the independence of the country.

Externally pursuing the non-aligned policy, Singapore is making efforts to strengthen regional cooperation as a member of the Asean, it notes, and goes on:

Korea and Singapore, both Asian countries, have established and developed friendly relations.

The Korean people extend felicitations to the Singaporean people on their independence day and wish them significant achievements in the work for the prosperity and development of the country.

Greetings Message Sent to Singapore 8 Aug

SK0808115394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—The Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on August 8 sent a message of greetings to President Ong Teng Cheong on the national day of the Republic of Singapore.

The message expressed the belief that friendly relations between the two countries would further develop and wished the president and people of Singapore great achievements in the work for the prosperity of the country.

Greetings Sent to New Colombian President

SK0908104694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—The Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Monday [8 August] sent a message of greetings to Ernesto Samper upon his assumption of office as president of the Republic of Colombia.

The message expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the Korean and Colombian peoples would continue to develop and wished the president success in his work for stability and prosperity of the country.

Pyongyang-Sponsored Factory Opens in Cambodia

SK0808111194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—The Teuktoula Farm Machine Factory of Cambodia went into operation on July 29.

At the commissioning ceremony, Kong Sam-ol, minister of agriculture, forestry and fishery of Cambodia, introduced the factory which had been rebuilt to its original state.

His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, in his speech said that technicians and specialists of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had played a big role in rebuilding the farm machine factory to its original state. "As a result, the factory has resumed production to make a big contribution to the agricultural development of Cambodia," he added.

He, in the name of the Royal Government of Cambodia and in his own name, expressed deep thanks to the DPRK Government for its sizable material, technical and moral assistance in the reconstruction of the farm machine factory which is of great importance in the economic rehabilitation and development of the kingdom, and stressed: "This factory will be a solid basis in developing agriculture, the mainstay of national economic construction, and play an important role in freeing peasants from toilsome work and mechanising agriculture."

The participants went round the factory at the end of the ceremony.

Sympathy Sent to Prime Ministers of Cambodia

SK0808120194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Pyongyang, August 8 (KCNA)—Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san sent a message of sympathy to First Prime Minister Norodom Ranariddh and Second Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Upon hearing the sad news that big floods recently hit some areas of Cambodia, causing heavy losses in human lives and materials, he expressed deep sympathy and condolences to the inhabitants of the afflicted areas.

He expressed the belief that the Cambodian Government and people would recover from flood damages in a short time and stabilize the life of the people of the flood-hit areas.

South Korea

Seoul To Ask U.S. To Bear More Defense Costs

SK0908010594 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Aug 94 p 3

[By staff reporter Sim Chae-yun]

[Text] The government will call on the United States to increase its cost sharing for the maintenance of its military forces in Korea, citing the country has shouldered too great a burden so far.

"South Korea has borne the largest ratio of military burden among the countries where the U.S. forces are stationed, a government official said yesterday," indicating a plan to demand a drastic cut in its share.

The official's statement drew attention as it came timed with the visit by Ray Caldwell, U.S. ambassador at large for defense burden sharing, today for the discussion about the cost sharing issues between the two countries.

According to testimony by former U.S. defense secretary Les Aspin during a hearing at the U.S. House of Representatives, South Korea held 78 percent of the cost for the stationing of the U.S. Forces in Korea (USFK) last year, compared to Japan and Germany which took 76 and 33 percent, respectively.

"This is only a face-value comparison. Our ratio is too burdensome in terms of national wealth compared with the other countries," the official said, on condition of anonymity.

According to data submitted by Aspin to the hearing, South Korea provided the USFK with support worth 2.3 billion dollars, while Japan and Germany offered 3.4 and 1.6 billion dollars last year.

South Korea's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) last year was 297 billion dollars while those of Japan and Germany reached more than 3.667 and 1.775 trillion dollars, respectively.

The official strongly indicated that the government will demand the U.S. include "indirect" military cost into calculating the cost sharing in the coming negotiations.

The indirect costs include real estate used as U.S. military bases, training sites, tax favors and the cost for the maintenance of the Korean Augmentation Troops to the U.S. Army (KATUSA).

The country agreed in 1991 it would share one third of the USFK's military cost until 1995 in a policy review subcommittee meeting held before the annual Security Council Meeting (SCM).

In accordance with the agreement, the nation shouldered 260 million dollars among 840 million dollars in total for "direct" military cost at the Won Base Cost (WBC) this year alone.

The U.S. government has asserted South Korea should bear more cost, considering the inflation in the country, hinting that it would demand Seoul bear two-thirds of the cost by the year 1999.

The United States has also rebuffed the Korean demand to include the indirect cost into computing the defense cost sharing, triggering a controversy between the two.

"The U.S. government should come up with reasonable position in this connection as it has already acknowledged that South Korea's military burden sharing is the highest-level in the world," an official said.

More Reportage on U.S.-DPRK Talks in Geneva

'Diplomatic Source' Comments

SK0908070294 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0603 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] A diplomatic source in Seoul reported: In the third round of U.S.-North Korean talks being held in Geneva, the United States and North Korea have neared an agreement to improve the way of preserving the used fuel rods.

This source said: There is a high risk of radiation in leaving the 8,000 or so fuel rods removed from the five-megawatt reactor in storage tanks as they are. However, as the United States and North Korea have come close to agreeing, when the quality of water is improved, the storage term of the used fuel rods can be prolonged for a year or two.

The source also said: Even if the third round of U.S.-North Korean talks fails to reach an overall agreement [chonmyonjogin habui] on the nuclear issue, discussions on the issue of improving the way of preserving the used fuel rods will be pursued as a separate issue [pyoltoro chujin]. Accordingly, engineers from the U.S. other Western countries are likely to map out preparations, before the end of August, for entering the DPRK.

DPRK, US Appraise Second Day

SK0908024194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Geneva, Aug. 8 (YONHAP)—The high-level talks between the United States and North Korea adjourned Monday after having seen 'some progress' in discussion over the North Korean nuclear issue.

The two sides agreed to resume the talks on Wednesday [10 Aug].

Emerging from the nine-hour second-day meeting held at the North Korean Mission here, chief North Korean delegate Kang Sok-chu said that he had put forward "important counterproposals for solving the nuclear problem" on the basis of American proposals last week.

Kang, first vice foreign minister, said he had found the prospect of a breakthrough in some respects although there were wide differences in the course of discussing the issue.

During the meeting, he said, North Korea offered to freeze its construction of the graphite-moderated nuclear reactor on the condition that it would be completely guaranteed support for the construction of light-water reactors.

Kang said that North Korea wanted compensation for the loss to be incurred by the freezing of its plans to construct graphite-moderated reactors, adding, "this is our rightful and proper demand."

As to the issue of the spent fuel rods withdrawn from the 5-megawatt reactor in yongbyon, he explained that "we offered proposals that could relieve the international community from fear."

However, he did not elaborate on the compensation for switching to light-water reactor system and the issue of the spent fuel rods on the ground that "talks are still in progress."

Meanwhile, U.S. chief delegate Robert Gallucci said in a briefing that their meetings had been concrete, businesslike and useful, adding there was "some progress" in their meetings as a result of the detailed discussions with his home government last weekend over Pyongyang's proposals.

Gallucci, the assistant secretary of state, pointed out the new proposals of North Korea were interesting and worthy of study and consideration. He noted the United States would determine its course of action in consultations with his home government, but did not make further explanation.

The third-day session is to be held at at the U.S. Mission here.

DPRK Proposes Compensation for Halting Reactor

SK0808231194 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] According to a report by correspondent Yi Myong-ku from Geneva, Kang Sok-chu, senior North Korean delegate to the Geneva U.S.-North Korea high-level talks, has said that North Korea proposed that it receive compensation [posang] for suspending the construction of the graphite moderated reactor. He also said that North Korea proposed a way of handling the used fuel rods in a manner in which the international community will feel safe.

Gallucci, senior U.S. delegate, said that the third meeting scheduled for today was put off until tomorrow to discuss the many points worth considering with the U.S. Government.

Accordingly, the third meeting between the United States and North Korea will be held at 1700 on 10 August Korean time [0800 GMT 10 August].

U.S. Said To Offer DPRK Nuclear Safety Aid

SK0908033494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0317 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea and the United States have neared an agreement on prolonging safekeeping of nuclear fuel rods without reprocessing them, a positive sign giving the two sides more negotiation time, sources here said Tuesday.

"Deciding what to do with the rods is the most urgent issue," said one source on condition of anonymity, "the two sides have neared an agreement on extending the deadline, allowing them to go into discussions on individual issues."

North Korea had insisted that the rods, removed from its 5mw [megawatt] reactor in June and now kept in a pool, have to be reprocessed at the end of this month or else face high radiation risk.

Washington is said to have suggested providing the technical assistance in prolonging the safety period of the rods in the pool, and Pyongyang reacted positively to the idea, the sources said.

"It's an understanding that this particular technical assistance is not a task that has to be carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)," said another source, "so the chances are that the United States will send its own team of experts to North Korea to carry it out."

North Korea and the United States are engaged in third round of high-level nuclear negotiations in Geneva where the handling of the fuel rods and replacement of North Korea's reactor system are two centerpiece agendas.

Sources indicated that the two sides have moved on to discuss specific issues now that the questions on the fuel rods are nearly resolved.

U.S., DPRK Discuss Differences on Fuel Rods

SK0808235994 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 9 Aug 94 p 1

[By Cho Pyong-taek from Geneva]

[Text] It has been learned that after intense discussion in the third round of high-level talks resumed on 8 August, the United States and North Korea have generally narrowed differences of opinion on the issue of dealing with used fuel rods. Prior to the meeting at the North Korean Mission in Geneva, the two sides' delegations held consultations with their respective governments for two days. On the premise that they have to hurry in handling the used fuel rods because the storage term of the used fuel rods now being preserved by North Korea in storage tanks, is set to expire at the end of August, they have agreed to prolong the storage term by dispatching engineers of the International Atomic Energy Agency or of Western countries to Yongbyon, North Korea.

DPRK Reportedly To Accept ROK-Type Reactor

SK0908153094 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1435 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By KBS Editor Yi Sang-kun reporting from KBS's Radio Information Center—live]

[Text] In connection with North Korea's request for support in building a light-water reactor as compensation for a freeze in that nation's nuclear development, it was learned on 9 August that Pyongyang has virtually accepted a U.S. proposal to use a South Korean-type atomic reactor rather than stick solely to a Russian- type reactor.

Such a change in attitude is construed as hinting that, following Kim Il-song's death, North Korea intends to solve the nuclear issue in a more forward-looking fashion, thereby hoping to attract our attention.

One diplomatic source in Seoul disclosed: At the first session [as received] of the third round of the U.S.-North talks which resumed on 8 August, North Korea expressed its position that it would accept whatever the

United States proposed—be it a South Korean-type, a U.S.-type, or a Russian-type reactor—thus backing away from its original position of demanding only a Russian (MVER) [expansion not given]-type atomic reactor.

Russian Daily: DPRK Trafficking in Drugs

SK0608065794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0239 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—North Korea turned out to have pushed for drug trafficking on the state level since Russia stopped supplying it with weapons, a Russian newspaper claimed on Friday [5 August].

A Russian intelligence agency came to the conclusion that Pyongyang has pushed for drug trafficking on the state level after investigating two North Koreans who were arrested in Vladivostok last May on charges of peddling heroin, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA said.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin were briefed on the drug peddling case and a senior official at the Home Affairs Ministry went to Vladivostok to lead the investigation.

The two North Koreans were later identified as officials of North Korea's Public Security Ministry, the paper said, and investigators in Vladivostok judged that North Korea, since Russia stopped supplying weapons, is trying to secure fund through drug trafficking to buy weapons including nuclear materials.

Premier Chernomyrdin allocated 260,000 dollars in person to the investigation which was secretly carried out.

The drug the Russian authority confiscated from the North Koreans was pure heroin weighing about 8.5 kilograms, the paper said.

When the North Korean drug traffickers crossed the border on their way to Vladivostok, North Korean border guards were relieved by others and a high-speed motor boat was seen waiting for them at a nearby river. In addition, an airplane which looked like the one to be used for transporting money to Pyongyang was seen at an airport near the border, the paper said.

The central and provincial governments of Russia have taken strict measures to cope with an increasing number of drug trafficking cases involving North Koreans since the late 1980s, but the measures have not worked very well, according to the paper.

Drug Trafficking Charges Against DPRK Viewed

SK0708065094

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of editorials carried in Seoul's vernacular newspapers on 7 August regarding international drug trafficking by North Korea.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO published on page 3 a 1,200-word editorial entitled "The Criminal Nature of the North Korean Regime." Expressing shock at the report that North Korea is engaged in illegal international drug trafficking "under the initiative of the state," the editorial stresses that North Korea can never be a genuine negotiation partner, though it is hastily sought by the United States and other nations, and denounces the North Korean regime as being possessed by various kinds of evil and crimes, a regime which allows fellow countrymen to starve under miserable circumstances.

Recalling the past incident when North Korean state organizations supported mass production of counterfeit currency, the editorial states the people are dumbfounded by the large-scale cultivation of narcotics carried out under the initiative of state organizations. The editorial adds that North Korea's threatening of the entire world with nuclear weapons is the same as the cultivation of narcotics with the entire world as its markets. Criticizing the recent trend towards sympathizing with the North, a trend prompted by some pro-North factions at home, the editorial warns that people should correctly examine the genuine nature of North Korea; it urges the United States to push for negotiations with North Korea based on a keen awareness of the North's criminal nature and the falsehood of its pledges.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN published on page 3 a 1,300-word editorial under the headline "North Korea Is Reduced to Group of Criminals." Expressing shock at PRAVDA's report that North Korea is pushing ahead with drug trafficking at the state level, the editorial points out the seriousness of Pyongyang's involvement in drug trafficking, as was shown by the Russian Government when it revealed that North Korean criminals were members of North Korea's Ministry of Public Security. Displaying a sense of pity about North Korea's economy and the shortages in foreign currency which forced Pyongayng to engage in drug trafficking for money, the editorial calls on North Korea to come forward as a member of the international community, and opt for coexistence and prosperity by opening up its closed society and by realizing North-South exchanges and cooperation.

The editorial points out that North Korea has been involved in 30-odd cases of drug trafficking in some 20 nations. As a result, more than 50 members of North Korea's foreign missions overseas have been arrested and expelled. The editorial adds that the number of illegal dealings in liquor, cigarettes, and the like is countless, branding such deakings as shameless acts. In view of North Korea's difficult economic condition, the editorial urges Pyongyang to discontinue wasting enormous amounts of money on propaganda, espionage activities, weapons purchases, the operating of foreign missions, and so forth.

Kim Chong-il on Holding N-S Talks 'Alternately'

SK0908151094 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1435 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Report by KBS Editor Yi Sang-kun reporting from KBS's Radio Information Center—live]

[Text] This is Radio Information Center. A North Korean source, who at present is deeply involved in the North's preparations for the summit, disclosed for the first time today that Kim Chong-il has personally ordered the South-North summit talks be held alternately in Pyongyang and Seoul.

This source disclosed: Following Kim Il-song's death, Kim Chong- il changed the strategy regarding the South-North summit to the effect that one session shall be held in Pyongyang and the other in Seoul alternately within this year.

He was also able to confirm through personal meetings with other high-ranking officials involved in handling the summit, as well as through high-ranking officials of the North's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Workers Party, that such an order was given by Kim Chong-il. The source added that these officials are all minister or vice minister-level officials.

The source added: In this regard, North Korean officials have disclosed that Pyongyang will accept a summit if the ROK proposes the talks be held alternately in Pyongyang and Seoul.

Disharmony in Government's DPRK Policy Studied

SK0908143494 Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 11 August 94 pp 14-17

[By senior reporter Kim Chae-il]

[Text] The government's policy toward North Korea is in confusion. This is not new, seeing as there has always been confusion in the government's policy toward the North since the inauguration of the new government. However, particularly with the death of North Korean President Kim Il-song, the direction and basis of the government's North Korean policy seems to be out of order.

After Kim Il-song's death, a bout of confusion took place over the issue of whether or not to express condolences to the North, followed by investigation authorities announcing that a memorial alter had been built at Chonnam National University. In addition, documents regarding the Korean war were released to the public, propelling arguments on responsibility for the war. Like making a mountain out of a molehill, leftist students and intellectuals following the North Korean ideology—the chuche idea—were brought to the fore. A series of such incidents has helped bolster the so-called Cold War atmosphere. The government hurriedly accepted President Kim Il-song's proposal for a South-North summit as conveyed by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, whose visit to North Korea had repeatedly been emphasized by the government as "a visit by a civilian." However, after Kim Il-song's death it seemed the government would not hold a South-North summit no matter how the date and place of the summit were established.

In particular, Kang Myong-to's 27 July statement about "North Korea's possessing five nuclear warheads", during a news conference arranged by the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] for two North Korean defectors, created a stir throughout the world like an exploded nuclear bomb. Experts unanimously said: "How could the news conference profit us? The NSP should have been prudent in timing it." They say the news conference exerted a bad influence not only upon South-North relations, but upon the third round of North Korean-U.S. talks. Embarrassed by the U.S. protest and international swell created by the news conference, the presidential offices held a meeting to seek measures to quell it. Regarding the stir caused by the news conference that the NSP had arranged, the staff of the National Unification Board and the Foreign Ministry generally responded: "It had the adverse effect of being more show than substance [hangonjuui]." This shows disharmony in government policies and disputes among government offices.

It is inevitable to modify the original plan to a certain extent when a dialogue partner dies or when a situation has changed. However, in such a case the basic policy must not be changed. Nevertheless, our policy toward North Korea does not follow this principle. Some experts even say that "the government has no policy toward North Korea."

When the wind of reform was blowing strongly following the inauguration of the Kim Yong-sam government, many intellectuals criticized the government for lacking a long-term reform program. This lack of a long-term reform program is the most critical problem in the government's policy toward North Korea. An expert from a research institute under government control described the government's policy toward the North as "the culmination of amateurism." What is our country's policy toward North Korea? Why is it inconsistent?

Let us first review important remarks about North Korea made by President Kim Yong-sam. From his inauguration speech on 25 February 1993: "If President Kim Il-song values the nation above all else, I am willing to meet him at any place and at any time." From an interview with KBS on the 100th day of his inauguration on 3 June 1993: "I cannot shake hands with a counterpart who has nuclear weapons." From an interview with Britain's BBC in June 1993: "The United States should not make any additional concessions in negotiations with North Korea over the nuclear issue." From an interview with CNN on 9 July 1993: "I hope North Korea will not bring upon itself, as a result of the nuclear issue, the same measures as those taken against Iraq by the United States." From a news conference on the first anniversary of his presidential inauguration on 25 February 1994: "I will hold a South-North summit with President Kim Il-song before North Korea's nuclear transparency is guaranteed if it helps in deterring North Korea's nuclear development." From a meeting with reporters accompanying him to the PRC on 29 March 1994: "Dialogue is the most important method to resolving the North Korean nuclear issue. There is no change in my thinking that I will meet with President Kim Il-song at any time if it helps to resolve the nuclear issue." From a meeting with reporters accompanying him to Uzbekistan on 7 June 1994: "We cannot allow North Korea to possess even one nuclear bomb." From a national security meeting on 8 June 1994: "A consensus is being built agreeing that there is now no other way but to apply sanctions against North Korea. North Korea will not avoid sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council." President Kim's remarks vary with the state of affairs, showing disorder in the government's policy toward North Korea.

The Cause of the Problem Lies in Attaching Too Much to the North Korean Nuclear Issue

The basic cause of the confusion in the government's policy toward North Korea results from North-South relations having become an issue which must be solved within the framework of North Korea's relations with the United States. Since North-South relations and the nuclear issue are the two axes of our government's policy toward the North, from the beginning South Korea should have established North-South relations as the main axis, subordinating the nuclear issue to it.

However, South Korea has placed the nuclear issue at the forefront, and consequently both the United States and North Korea have become concerned parties. In other words, the South Korean Government has not only been alienated from the nuclear issue, but has also been placed in a difficult situation in trying to solve the issue of North-South relations.

Because of the nuclear issue, the South Korean Government's policy toward North Korea has inevitably followed U.S. policy. In view of the present trend, it will be difficult for the South Korean Government to reverse a priority it has already established.

Experts believe that if the South Korean Government had taken the initiative in carrying out its policy toward the North by formulating a basic North-South agreement and a joint declaration for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, its policy activities toward the North would be smoother than it currently is.

What should be noted is that the ministries concerned with unification and security affairs have failed to work hand in hand with mutual cooperation, and have experienced a state of chaos in carrying out policy toward the North. Such chaos stems from the lack of a central control.

The Unification and Security Policy Coordination Meeting [USPCM]—newly founded last April to tune the positions and opinions of the ministries concerned with unification and security affairs—was attended by Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister and minister of the Unification Board; Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu; National Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae; Kim Tok, director of the National Security and Planning Agency; Chief Secretary to the President Pak Kwan-yong; and Chong Chong-uk, senior secretary to the president for foreign and national security affairs .

People doubt if this coordination meeting has been functioning smoothly.

A concerned Chongwadae [presidential offices] official revealed that the minute book of the coordination meeting is "boring and disappointing." In other words, their discussion is not about the basic essence of the issue and the policies regarding the issue; the contents of their discussions are extremely shortsighted and administrative. For instance, discussed were such issues as: What should our government ask from the United States in connection with the North Korean-U.S. talks? How should the government conduct publicity regarding the North-South summit? What should they do in case the president knows information about an issue? And so forth.

This official stated: "I am somehow relieved that Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku, who possesses a multidimensional sense regarding North-South relations and the nuclear issue, joined the team." However, he criticized Chong Chong-uk, senior secretary to the president for foreign and national security affairs, saying: "He is not properly playing his role as the president's tutor. He is usually silent, but then suddenly becomes bold." He should let the president see the point of an issue within the larger frame, but instead he only gives him pieces of information. This is compared to the considerable role played by the senior secretary to the president for foreign and national security affairs in the Sixth Republic.

The Standard-Bearer of the Moderate Line

Among the members of the coordination meeting, Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku and Minister Han Sung-chu are moderates, and Senior Secretary Chong Chong-uk and NSP Director Kim Tok are hard- liners. One of the hard-liners reportedly played a decisive role in the aftereffects of the condolence controversy in mid-July, and in the release of the Korean war documents which coincided with the memorial service for Kim Il-song on 20 July. The Foreign Ministry opposed the release of these documents.

Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku is known to be "the standard- bearer of the moderate line." Let us analyze his role in developing the government stance to brand Kim Il-song as responsible for the Korean war, which was announced by Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok on 18 July.

Prior to the announcement regarding the document, a meeting of the Coordination Council was held on 14 July. This is unprecedented, for meetings are usually held at 0730 [2230 GMT] every Friday morning at the Secretariat for North-South Dialogue in Samchong-dong, Seoul. Originally, the draft statement that was prepared at the meeting was to include the following hard-line contents: the question of responsibility for the Korean war, and Kim Chong-il's responsibility for the Aungsan incident and the explosion aboard a Korean Air jetliner.

However, Deputy Prime Minister Yi said he would not agree. Rather, he demanded that the phrase "summit talks remain effective" be removed from the draft statement if its contents were adopted at the meeting. Thanks to President Kim Yong-sam's mediation, Deputy Prime Minister Yi's position was finally implemented.

Can we then assume that he properly coordinates each ministry's position, or leads the unification and national security affairs team? Authorities at Chongwadae, the National Unification Board, and the Foreign Ministry say there is no problem with him leading the team because he is older than the other figures in the Coordination Council and because President Kim has firm trust in him. A relevant official says that since Foreign Minister Han Sung- chu and Senior Secretary Chong Chong-uk are several years behind Deputy Prime Minister Yi, who graduated from the Department of Liberal Arts and Science at Seoul National University, there is no problem in achieving their cooperation. However, in regard to the cooperation of the unification and national security affairs team, it is nonsense to talk about one's age, President Kim's trust, or one's school connections because the current members of the Coordination Council can be changed at any time. In other words, it is a matter of mechanism, not a matter of man.

Experts say that the National Unification Board should exclusively handle North-South issues, and its prestige should be further enhanced. On the other hand, they say the Agency for the National Security Planning should only deal with information-related affairs and provide support to the National Unification Board. The National Unification Board and the Foreign Ministry should directly handle such issues as politically utilizing and dealing with information provided from the agency, depending upon the situation. In other words, the deputy prime minister in charge of unification affairs should actually lead the meeting of the Coordination Council as a control tower to formulate the South's policy toward North Korean, and should practically satisfy the demands of the National Unification Board.

What about the actual situation in the country? Deputy Prime Minister Yi says he plays a key role in preventing the Coordination Council's meetings from adopting hard-line measures toward North Korea; in actuality, the government's policy toward North Korea has been moving in a hard-line direction since Kim Il-song passed away. This means Deputy Prime Minister Yi is not able to satisfy the demands of the National Unification Board and achieve cooperation from the unification and national security affairs team.

It is appropriate to say the responsible official of the National Unification Board is the deputy prime minister due to his post, but in actualiyy the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of National Defense, and the Agency for National Security Planning are the key powers in handling unification and national security affairs. In other words, the post of senior secretary for foreign and national security affairs is a higher rank than that of the National Unification Board. The Agency for National Security Planning has exclusively taken over all information related to North Korean issues. Furthermore, the director of the agency has been granted the right to directly report to the president. During the condolence period following Kim Il-song's death, cadres of the National Unification Board received their news solely from broadcast networks news covering North Korean issues. This shows the agency controls the Coordination Council, and therefore it is difficult for the National Unification Board minister to take over all North Korean-related affairs.

An expert in North Korean affairs who served as a high-ranking official in the agency stated: "The National Unification Board, a policymaking ministry, is the weakest ministry among the government ministries. Therefore, how can it command other ministries without having actual power? It is natural that the agency, which is well aware of the actual situation in North Korea, should play a leading role in formulating the government's North Korean policy." He added that the inconsistency of the government's North Korean policy originates from its confusion over the issues of unification, dialogue, and operations [kongjak]. This means that regarding the North Korean policy, the National Unification Board should handle the issue in order to inspire the people's desire for national reunification and to manage the country's future affairs once it is reunified; that the team directly belonging to the president should deal with the issue of holding dialogue with North Korea; and that the agency should forge operations to make North Korea change its policy toward South Korea. He maintained that "neither a functional approach nor a western-oriented method of analysis is appropriate for the people to understand North Korea." Also, he has pointed out the background of the government's inconsistency in its North Korean policy, saying: "North Korea has consistently adhered to its policy, but we have added more complicated situations to our society."

The Need for Consistency Without Catering to Popularity

Experts say they do not know who President Kim listens to and how he decides on a North Korean policy. It seems there is no real team which actually controls North

Korean policy, but instead the government formulates a North Korean policy based on remarks made by someone in a powerful position, that someone depending on the situation during the meeting. Under this mechanism, it is difficult to adhere to consistency in the government's North Korean policy.

There are some who believe the inconsistency in the government's North Korean policy originates from its utilization of the policy in domestic political issues, as was done by the former governments. It seems the government is thinking too much about public opinion or its popularity with the people, or bending to domestic political situations. In short, it is likely the government is reluctant to hold a summit with Kim Chong-il because he is less valuable than Kim Il-song.

However, experts feel the government should consistently adhere to its North Korean policy in order to utilize it in domestic political situations. For example, the No Tae-u government made up for the loss it suffered in domestic politics by achieving diplomatic goals with foreign countries. On the other hand, the Kim Yong-sam government's inconsistent North Korean policy has damaged the strong foundation of domestic politics.

Kim Nam-sik, senior researcher of the Peace Institute [as published], says the reunification issue differs from the national security issue. Therefore, he demands the current Unification and National Security Policy Coordination Council—attended by the National Unification Board and the Foreign Ministry—be reorganized into the "Unification-Related Affairs Coordination Council" with the participation of the Economic Planning Board, which will handle providing economic support to North Korea, and the Ministry of Communications, which will handle communication issues. Also, he has proposed the formation of a council made up of historians, sociologists, and independent movement fighters—including scholars who majored in international politics—so it can represent the people's will for national reunification.

In essence, reunification is an issue requiring a high degree of political judgment. Above all, the president should possess a firm and national will to resolve the North-South issue in preparation for an era of national reunification. This should also be backed by the political leader's outlook on reunification and his philosophy. Along with this, the government should formulate a long-term and stage-by-stage policy that strives to achieve cooperation among the ministries concerned, thus coordinating their positions. Then the basis of the policy can be clear. The government should consistently push ahead with its North Korean policy, regardless of declines in its popularity or criticism from public opinion, if it believes the policy is beneficial to the nation's own interests.

Minister Hints at Secret Negotiations With North

SK0908101094 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0900 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] On 9 August, the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs-National Unification Committee conducted an in-depth interrogation of Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister and minister of national unification, concerning the human rights issue in North Korea, the third round of talks between the United States and North Korea, and North Korea's movements regarding the succession of power since Kim Il-song's death.

Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku disclosed: Although I am convinced of the necessity of having negotiations with North Korea in order to realize the repatriation of those kidnapped by the North, I will refrain from discussing secret negotiations because I feel if it is mentioned often enough, it will not be beneficial.

Thus, he hinted at the possibility that secret negotiations are underway.

As regards unifying the national view concerning questions dealing with the North, Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku stated: We are planning to gather views from people from various walks of life by presenting a draft on the education for national unification, which reflects our principles and our national consensus in terms of the question of dealing with the North, before this year's regular National Assembly session.

At today's meeting, ruling party lawmakers urged the government to actively regard all 20 million North Korean residents as part of the human rights issue, and not just limit it to the human rights of those kidnapped by the North.

Opposition lawmakers demanded the government adopt a consistent policy toward the North, pointing to the confusion in the government's policy toward the North, a policy that has rapidly become hard-line following Kim Il-song's death and which pushes for an unconditional South-North summit.

'Reunification Through Absorption' Said Possible

SK0908005794 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 9 Aug 94 p 1

[Text] Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister in charge of national unification, said on 8 August: "The government is of the position that even though it does not want reunification through absorption, it will achieve such reunification if the opportunity should arise."

He said this during a special lecture that he gave to university professors at 1030 on 8 August at the Reunification Training Institute in Suyu-tong, Tobong District, Seoul, and added: "When it is necessary for us to achieve reunification through absorption as a result of the collapse of the North Korean regime or any other developments, can we reject or postpone such reunification?" Deputy Prime Minister Yi went on to say: "Viewed from a national perspective, we are not in a position to avoid achieving reunification through absorption merely because of the enormous expense."

Citing the remarks which German President von Weizsacker made at the time of German unification, Deputy

Prime Minister Yi said: "We should be resolved to willingly suffer any sacrifice that is required in giving freedom to all people." He went on to say that "we oppose the demand of certain people that we seek ways to hasten North Korea's collapse, which has already begun," and added that this was because doing so may fuel a war that will threaten human dignity, national welfare, and peace on the Korean peninsula.

Deputy Prime Minister Yi also said that the government is paying attention to any attempt by North Korea for changes, including attempts to open up or free itself from isolation, and that it is mapping out gradual and phased countermeasures for reunification [chomjinjogimyo tangyejogin tongil taechaek] to promote welfare for all countrymen.

Seoul To Propose Resumption of Red Cross Talks

SK0608083694 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 6 Aug 94 p 1

[Text] In the name of ROK Red Cross Society President Kang Yong-hun, the government decided to propose officially to North Korea the resumption of the South-North Red Cross talks to discuss the repatriation of the detainees in North Korea, including Ko Sang-mun, and the reunion of separated families, on 12 August, the 23d anniversary of the proposal to hold South-North Red Cross talks.

In a telephone message to North Korea, President Kang plans to propose to resume the South-North Red Cross talks at Panmunjom to discuss ways to resolve the issue of separated families, such as the humanitarian repatriation of the detainees in the North, including Ko Sang-mun; exchange of home visits of separated families; and establishing a meeting place at Panmunjom for meetings of separated families.

If North Korea responds to the South side's proposal and the South-North Red Cross talks are resumed, the government decided that it will reveal its position that it may resolve through a package deal the issue of repatriating unconverted long-term North Korean prisoners Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan and the issue of the detainees in the North and separated families.

The government asked the United States to strongly convey to North Korea the government's position of repatriating Ko Sang-mun at the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks.

The government made this decision at the Unification and Security Policy Coordination Council meeting held on 5 August chaired by Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister and minister of the National Unification Board [NUB], after discussing various measures for the repatriation of the detainees in North Korea and on dealing with the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks.

After the meeting, NUB spokesman Kim Kyong-ung revealed: "In connection with the issue of the detainees in North Korea, the government anticipates and will promote that a channel for direct dialogue will be opened between the South and North."

The first South-North Red Cross talks were held in 1971. The talks have been suspended since 1990 after a working-level contact for the exchange of separated families and art groups was held. (endall) 6 aug ze/scally/KZE24068.03/BS610608.03/ak 06/0836z Aug

Resolution Urges DPRK To Return Abductees

SK0908114894 Seoul YONHAP in English 1139 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—The National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee on Tuesday unanimously adopted a resolution calling for the return of all those South Koreans abducted by North Korea.

In the four-point resolution, the committee said it could hardly control shock and anger at the Amnesty International report on political prisoners in North Korea.

"Since the human rights of Ko Sang-mun and other abductees are in the worst conditions and the pains of their families in the South are very acute, the abductees should be returned to their families forthwith," the resolution said.

The committee called on the Seoul government to use all available resources in obtaining the return of abductees, and on North Korea to abide by the International Human Rights Convention and allow on- the-spot inspections by relevant world organizations of human rights conditions in North Korea.

"North Korea should faithfully carry out the agreements which South and North Korea have adopted for the reunion of dispersed families, the repatriation of detainees and other humanitarian resolutions," the committee's resolution said.

North Rejection of Seoul Message 'Willful Act'

SK0908073994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea's recent refusal to accept telephone messages from South Korea turned out to be a willful act aimed at showing discontent with South Korea's not expressing condolence over the death of the late North Korean President Kim Il-song and carrying through its proposal for replacing the armistice agreement with a peace pact, according to a South Korean ruling party lawmaker Tuesday [9 August].

Kim Tae-chong, a senior official at the North Korean Workers' Party's International Department now attending "the First East Asian Young Leaders Congress" in Malaysia, reportedly hinted at such North

Korean position in private talks with South Korean lawmaker Park Chong-ung of the Democratic Liberal Party.

In a telephone interview with YONHAP, Rep. Park quoted Kim as saying, "We consider South Korea's refusal to express condolence over President Kim Il-song's death as an intention not to have a dialogue with us."

Kim was also quoted as saying that the negotiation between South and North Korea on the matter to replace the armistice agreement with a peace treaty has not made any progress ever since the senior delegate to the Military Armistice Commission was replaced by a South Korean officer.

"The armistice agreement, therefore, should be converted to peace accord as soon as possible," Kim was quoted as saying.

Asked whether Pyongyang, by refusing to accept messages from Seoul, was meaning to exclude Seoul from the process of its negotiation with Washington, Kim reportedly said, "It's because latest attitudes of South Korea cannot be regarded as sincere enough to build reconciliation and mutual trust."

"We are trying to negotiate directly with the United States simply because the country has the real decision-making power on the nuclear matter," Kim was quoted as saying.

DPRK Propaganda Offensive Against South Viewed

SK0608051194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—North Korea's propaganda offensive against South Korea has been intensifying since the death of Kim Il-song.

The North's verbal attack as broadcast by Radio Pyongyang focuses on a number of measures the South Korean Government took after Kim's death, such as putting the nation on the special alert, opposing the mourning over Kim's death and a round-up of student activists following Kim Il-song's chuche (self-reliance) ideology.

On July 15 when the whole North Korean people were engrossed in mourning the loss of their great leader, the North started slandering the South in relation to Kim's death.

According to Naewoe press, the official North Korea watcher here, Radio Pyongyang, in a commentary entitled "National Shame" aired on the day, said President Kim Yong-sam "is running around like a crazy dog while putting the nation into a whirlwind of emergency," referring to his order to put the military, police and government officials on the special alert after Kim Il-song's death.

On the following day, the broadcast in another commentary program called the South Korean Government "an evil-doer lacking the rudiments of humanity," referring to the steps it took against any mourning programs in the South over Kim Il-song's death, including sending a condolatory mission to Pyongyang.

In relation to Kim's death, Radio Pyongyang aired over 40 programs slandering the South.

The General Federation of Trade Unions of (North) Korea, in a statement broadcast by Radio Pyongyang on July 25, lashed out at the South Korean Government for attempting to "strangle democracy through a new repressive policy... while indulging in anti- communist, hysteric and crazy acts."

Calling the South Korean authorities "beast-like villains," the statement called for removal of these "villains" from South Korean society as soon as possible.

The North Koreans thus take the South Korean Government not as a dialogue partner but as the one that must be toppled down for their goal of reunifying the nation under communist rule.

North Korea's increasing tirades against the South aim at instigating some extreme student activists and dissidents in South Korea to intensify their anti-government struggle by making them believe that the government is under fire for its opposition to the mourning over Kim Il-song's death.

By intensifying the propaganda offensive against the South, the North Koreans has demonstrated that all the inter-Korean agreements signed so far can be but waste paper to them, depending on developments of the situation.

In a preliminary meeting held in the truce village of Panmunjom on June 28 to prepare for an inter-Korean summit, South and North Korea agreed to stop slandering each other for a successful summit on the basis of mutual trust and understanding. But the North Koreans are increasingly slandering the South, totally defying the agreement.

North Reportedly Stresses Heavy Indusry

SK0908020094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0103 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, August 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea, moving away from its hitherto emphasis on the importance of light industries, Sunday stressed the need of developing heavy industries such as electric power, machinery and chemistry.

According to Naewoe Press, the official North Korea watcher here, Radio Pyongyang said Sunday that heavy industries were physical basis for the construction of socialism. "Without the foundation of self-supporting heavy industries," Radio Pyongyang went on, "a political and economic independence of the nation cannot be secured, nor can a general development of the people's economy including light industries and agriculture be expected."

As main elements for the development of self-supporting and modern heavy industries, the broadcast cited new technology, indigenous natural resources, and heavy industrial facilities that can be produced domestically. North Korea's basic economic policy calls for developing heavy industries on a priority basis and promoting light industries and agriculture at the same time, the broadcast explained.

At a general session of the ruling workers' party central committee in December last year, North Korea virtually admitted the failure of its third seven-year economic plan. And the North presented a new economic strategy advocating the promotion of agriculture, light industries and trade-first policy through "economic construction buffer period" of two to three years.

Propaganda for Kim Chong-il 'Coronation' Noted

SK0608115494 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 6 Aug 94 p 7

[Article by Beijing-based correspondent Choe Tu-sam from the "Correspondent's Corner" column: "North Korea Is Engrossed in Propaganda Describing Kim Chong-il as Dutiful Child"]

[Text] While the prolonged delay in the "coronation" crowning Kim Chong-il with the title of party general secretary and president of North Korea after Kim Il-song's death is increasing our curiosity, the North Korean authorities are engrossed in promoting Kim Chong-il's image as "an extraordinarily dutiful child."

A Western source in Beijing knowledgeable in North Korean affairs stated: "The North Korean authorities are conducting crafty propaganda operations to extol Kim Chong-il as an extraordinarily dutiful child, mobilizing their propaganda means at all work sites and villages." Another Western source expressed that the North Korean authorities seem to be using Kim Chong-il's appearance, marked by a haggard face during the mourning period for his father, as a means to propagate this extolment of Kim Chong-il.

Some observers analyze that North Korea is taking these actions to transfer the people's attachment to Kim Il-song to Kim Chong-il in a natural manner. They added that Kim Chong-il's haggard appearance on television could be a highly political maneuver.

One diplomatic source said that the reason for the delay in Kim Chong-il's coronation could be that Kim Chong-il, who wants to be highlighted as a dutiful child, is afraid of criticism that he is an ungrateful child if he hurriedly fills the positions of party general secretary and the president of the country. The North Korean power hierarchy is now in fact already completely in the hands of Kim Chong-il. Why should he hurry the coronation to invite a scowl? Therefore, he may want to fill his father's positions after removing his funeral garments following the observance of the traditional 49 days of mourning. This may enable Kim Chong-il to enjoy more of Kim Il-song's patronage considering the characteristics of Oriental society.

Some observers present a view about the sentiment of the North Korean residents. The North Korean residents are sunk in so much sorrow from the shock of Kim Il-song's death that it is not appropriate to change into a festive atmosphere overnight. No ceremony is expected in North Korea even if Kim Chong-il is appointed as the president of the country or as party general secretary, as is customary in communist states. Nevertheless, North Korea will undoubtedly create a festive atmosphere for his appointment, mobilizing all its mass media, though no official ceremony will be held. The North Korean authorities may think that it is now too early to create such a festive atmosphere.

In the meantime, Chinese who have recently been to North Korea report fewer North Korean residents weeping in front of Kim Il-song's statue. A Chinese man who visited Kim Il-song's statue at Mansudae in Pyongyang at the end of last month stated: "I met some 30 persons who were laying flowers in front of the statue paying a silent tribute, but I saw none of them weeping." If this is true, Kim Chong-il's coronation may not be very far away.

DPRK 'May Establish Collective Leadership'

OW0908130994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1240 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 KYODO—North Korea may establish collective leadership by the Workers Party of Korea with Kim Chong-il as the central political figure, South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku suggested Tuesday [9 August].

"There is a possibility that North Korea will further strengthen its regime of control by the Workers Party of Korea, although secretary Kim Chong-il will be made a central figure," Yi told a parliamentary committee.

Yi, concurrently unification minister, told the National Assembly's Committee on foreign and unification affairs, that there is intelligence to suggest that a "personnel reshuffle triggered by the change in power structure" in the North Korean hierarchy is under way following the death of North Korean leader Kim Il-song.

Yi said, "issues such as power sharing, organizational restructuring, and personnel reshuffles triggered by the change in the power structure seem to have become intertwined in a complicated manner."

Pyongyang watchers have been wondering whether the younger Kim, son and apparent heir of the late Kim, will be able to take full control of North Korea single-handedly.

Yi also said a series of remarks made last month by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen during the ASEAN regional forum in Bangkok indicate that discord over the succession matter has not yet been eradicated in North Korea.

Yi quoted Kozyrev as saying north korea seems to be undergoing structural reorganization inside the top ranks of its leadership amid signs that the younger Kim has already succeeded his father as the new ruler.

Yi also quoted Qian as saying the leadership structure in North Korea has not yet been completed, although Yi said Kim Chong-il will certainly take over the post of new leader.

Those remarks indicate it will take some time for Kim Chong-il to consolidate his grip on power through the formal announcement of his accession to the leadership, the deputy premier said.

"All these things taken into consideration, the power transition in North Korea seems to be undergoing a delay as structural reorganization is taking place in the leadership," he said.

Kim Chong-il's Succession 'May Take Some Time'

SK0908084094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, August 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea may take some time before completing formal procedures for succession to power by Kim Chong-il, the son and designated heir of late North Korean President Kim Il-song, Deputy Premier and Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku said Tuesday.

"Power transition to Kim Chong-il has virtually been completed, but the implementation of official procedures is being delayed, and this may take some time," Yi said.

Appearing before a session of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, the deputy premier attributed the delay to "very complicated and entangled matters of personnel reshuffle" involving distribution of power, realignment of organization and changes to power structure.

The new Pyongyang leadership will operate centered around Kim Chong-il, but the leadership of the party might be strengthened, he predicted.

Minister Yi suggested that the South Korean Government is not considering taking initiatives for holding an inter-Korean summit when he said: "As North Korea asked for suspending the summit meeting, the North would have to complete internal procedures necessary for ending the suspension and express new intention separately."

For the resolution of the North's nuclear issue, however, Seoul wants to promote inter-Korean talks in such a way that may complement the Pyongyang-Washington talks now under way in Geneva. South Korea's wish to have such a stand reflected at the third round of North Korea-U.S. talks in Geneva has been conveyed to the American side, according to Yi.

Characterizing the third round of talks as "virtually the last dialogue" for resolving the nuclear issue, Yi asserted that the talks should secure at least the North's agreement in principle to its return to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), complete normalization of inspections by the International Atomic energy Agency (IAEA) and special inspections of North Korean nuclear facilities.

Yi reiterated the South Korean Government stand that Seoul should supply the North with light-water reactor system, saying: "It is desirable to approach the issue of converting the North's reactors from the far-reaching perspective of constructing a national community and promoting national welfare under the premise that transparency is guaranteed on the North's nuclear activities."

Kim Il-song Reportedly Died at Villa 2 Jul

SK0908103094 Seoul YONHAP in English 1024 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea's Kim Il-song died around noon [0300 GMT] of July 2 at his villa on scenic Mt. Myohyang instead of on the early morning of July 8 at the presidential palace in Pyongyang as North Korea announced officially, it was learned here Tuesday [9 August].

A western intelligence source said he was told of the story by a senior official of Kim Il-song's Security Service, whom he said he met a while ago in secrecy.

The source said Kim Il-song collapsed while presiding over a Party Politburo meeting at his mountain villa to discuss a strategy over the South-North summit set for late July. Kim Chong-il was also present at the meeting.

The source quoted the Security Service official as saying, "The Politburo meeting began at 11 A.M. July 2 and shortly after the meeting started, Kim Il-song voiced 'uh' as he struck his chest twice with his hand and fell unconscious."

As Kim had a heart fit, a medical team at the presidential villa rushed to the conference room and tried to resuscitate him through emergency treatment but in vain.

Aware of the seriousness of his case, Kim Chong-il and other Politburo members tried to evacuate him to Pyongyang by helicopter. But, the helicopter couldn't fly due to the heavy rains there at that time, the source said.

The source went on to say that as they were waiting for the stop of the downfall, Kim Il-song succumbed at the Mt. Myohyang villa some time between 11 A.M. and 2 P.M. July 2.

The North Korean leadership had to announce Kim Il-song's death six days later because of the time needed in transporting his remains to Pyongyang and in taking steps to cope with the aftermath of his death, the source added.

Steps on Comfort Women Said Unsatisfactory

SK0608093394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0915 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is not satisfied with Japan's offer to build a special center for "comfort women" victims in Asia and will expect other measures from Tokyo, Seoul officials said Saturday.

The government concluded that the Japanese proposal of the center will not suffice as a basic solution in clearing this part of the past, they said.

Japan, after admitting for the first time last year that its former imperial army was directly involved in recruiting and operating frontline brothels of "comfort women" to service sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, had said in August last year it will come up with measures to show its regrets.

New Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's cabinet said it will put up 100 billion yen for five years starting next year, the 50th anniversary of end of World War II, to build an Asia exchange center for youth programs, an archive of war documents and an Asian women's center.

The women's center, however, aimed at helping former comfort women who were recruited from all over Asia, is not a sufficient measure, officials here said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Chang Ki-ho said the Seoul government will closely watch if Tokyo's measures are indeed directed at concrete actions reflecting its apology.

"Our government position is that we demand full disclosure of the truth and that Japan learn from the history rather than material compensation from the Japanese Government," he said.

Discussion in Tokyo To Review Kidnapping

SK0708031194 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Aug 94 p 2

[Text] A joint meeting between Korean and Japanese lawmakers and private organizations will be held tomorrow in Tokyo to review the kidnapping of the then opposition lawmaker Kim Tae-chung which took place in the Japanese capital in 1973.

Rep. Kim Yong-pae, who heads the main opposition Democratic Party (DP)'s fact-finding committee on the abduction case, said yesterday that participants at the meeting will discuss ways to find out truth about the kidnapping scandal.

He said, "Efforts will be made to bring to light the details concerning the two decade-old case in the meeting."

The Korean participants at the Tokyo meeting include Reps. Kim Yong-pae, Kim Chung-cho, Yi Won-hyong, Son Se-il, Chae Yong-sok, Kang Su-rim, Kim Ok-tu and Han Hwa-kap of the DP, lawyer Han Sung- hon and Prof. Yi Mun-yong.

Among the Japanese participants are Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, Lower House Speaker Takako Toi and Liberal Democratic Party President Yohei Kono.

Kim Tae-chung, a promising opposition lawmaker at the time who lost to then President Pak Chong-hui in the 1971 presidential election, was kidnapped from the Grand Palace Hotel in Tokyo by Koreans who were reportedly agents of the then Korea Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) in August 1973. He then was forcibly brought to Seoul by boat five days after he was abducted in the Japanese capital.

Many Koreans have widely believed that the KCIA, predecessor of the Agency for National Security Planning, played a pivotal role in the kidnapping case as Kim Tae-chung claimed.

Kim Tae-chung had claimed at that time that he must have been abducted by the KCIA under the direction of then President Pak Chong-hui.

Despite demands by Kim's aides, some citizens, and the opposition camp that the abduction case must be brought to light, there has been no official government announcement on the case until now.

The main opposition DP founded the fact-finding committee on the abduction case last year and has actively tried to find out the truth of the kidnapping scandal.

But the committee has faced difficulties in finding the truth because those who were allegedly involved in the case did not want to testify before it.

In May, the committee members visited Yi Hu-rak, then director of the KCIA who is reportedly known as mastermind of the case, but failed to meet him. "Those involved in the abduction scandal have avoided testifying," said an aide to Kim Yong-pae. "The current government, like past governments, is not interested in bringing to lights the abduction scandal either," he said.

He said the committee has not been allowed to review the documents held by the government related to the kidnapping case such as records of negotiations the Seoul and Tokyo governments held after the abductions.

Military Medical Team To Join UN Forces

SK0708031494 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Aug 94 p 3,5

[By staff reporter Yi Sung-yol]

[Text] An advance unit of the South Korean military medical team will leave for Western Sahara Tuesday [9 August] to join the U.N. peacekeeping operations (PKO) in the northwestern African region, the Defense Ministry announced yesterday.

The 17 military personnel in the advance unit, who have been trained at an Army school for five weeks, are expected to arrive in the city of Laayoune on the North Atlantic coast Thursday to prepare for the arrival of the main unit of the military medical team, a ministry spokesman said.

The 42-member South Korean medical team will replace the Swiss medical unit which is to withdraw Aug. 15 from the U.N. PKO in Western Sahara, called MINURSO, or "Mission des Nations Unies pour le Referendum au Sahara Occidental," established in April 1991.

The main unit of the Korean military medical team is to leave for Laayoune, the largest city in Western Sahara, between Sept. 5 and Sept. 10. Four officers already arrived in Laayoune Aug. 2 to prepare to take over the mission of the outgoing 41-member Swiss medical unit, the ministry spokesman said.

The South Korean team will provide medical service mainly to the some 490 U.N. PKO personnel from 27 countries, who are supervising a truce between Morocco and Polisario, or the Western Sahara Liberation Front which is seeking independence from Morocco.

The PKO personnel are also preparing for general elections by the people of Morocco and Western Sahara to determine the fate of the latter, in accordance with an earlier U.N. resolution. Before the elections slated for Feb. 12, 1995, the PKO personnel will increase up to 3,000.

In December 1991, the two sides agreed to settle the dispute through a referendum, which is being delayed due to minor differences.

When the general elections end smoothly as scheduled, the U.N. PKO force would have the mission of supervising either the withdrawal of Moroccan troops, who control 80 percent of Western Sahara, from the region, or the disbandment of Polisario army.

In February this year, the United Nations requested Seoul to send a military medical team to Western Sahara to replace the Swiss medical unit. In May, the government decided to accept the U.N. request and on July 14, the National Assembly approved the government decision.

The South Korean military medical team will serve there for one year, and extension of their service will be decided after consultations with the United Nations, the Defense Ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said that there would be no problem in the safety of the South Korean military medics, because the Moroccan government and Polisario signed a cease-fire agreement in September 1991 and the Korean medics will be based in Laayoune, far from any conflicting areas.

He also said the financial burden to the government to maintain the medical team would be meager.

A South Korean military engineer battalion, the Evergreen Unit, served in Somalia under the U.N. PKO from August 1993 to March this year. South Korea had also dispatched a military medical team to Saudi Arabia during the Gulf war.

Some 1,500 South Koreans are residing in the port city of Spanish Las Palmas off Laayoune in the Grand Canary Island where a South Korean fisheries advance base is located. The Korean medical team would airlift seriously wounded patients to medical centers in Las Palmas.

Western Sahara, covering some 266,000 sq. km of region with about 200,000 population, had long been ruled by Moroccans till 1884 when it became a Spanish protectorate. The Spanish withdrew in 1976, and the Moroccans again subjugated the region in 1978, touching off armed independence struggle by the people of Western Sahara, who had formed the Polisario in 1973.

The weather is mild in the western coastal area, while the inland is mostly desert.

At present, over 70,000 personnel from 70 countries are participating in the U.N. PKO in 16 regions in the world.

Book Says Stalin Deported Koreans to Kazakhstan

SK0608071994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0542 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—Documents on the forced mass deportation of Soviet Koreans in the Stalin era from the Russian far east to Kazakhstan have been cited in a recently published book in Kazakhstan, ITAR-TASS reported Friday [5 August] from Almaty.

The Russian official news agency revealed that the book entitled "The Koreans of Kazakhstan" by Prof. Georgiy Kan, president of Kazakhstan's Republican Association of Cultural Centers, and published by the Kazakhstan Publishing House, explained about Koreans by citing the archives which have been highly classified until recently.

The documents depicted how the 200,000 Koreans were repressed after they were declared social outcasts by the resolution on Aug. 21 in 1937 of the Soviet Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party, Bolshevik.

These documents came to light only after the access to the secret archives belonging to Kazakhstan Committee of National Security was permitted, according to ITAR-TASS.

"The book's publication is only the beginning of the great work to create a full-scale history of the Koreans living in Kazakhstan," the agency quoted Kan as saying. "Several documentary essays have also been prepared for publication."

He explained that the essays are devoted to the domestic life and economic activities of Korean settlers in Kazakhstan. "The Koreans, repressed and devoid of elementary human rights, won respect of the local population and occupied a deserving place among them under incredibly difficult conditions," he added.

Part of the research work is devoted to the revival of the culture, language and traditions of the Korean diaspora under contemporary conditions, ITAR-TASS quoted him as saying.

U.S., Japan, PRC 3 Largest Exporters to ROK

SK0608055194 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Aug 94 p 7

[Text] China emerged as the third-largest exporter to Korea close on the heels of Japan and the United States in the first half of this year, the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) said yesterday.

According to a report released by KFTA, the nation's six-month imports from China amounted to $2.56 billion, up 40.6 percent from the same period a year ago.

The imports from China were $250 million more than those from Germany which had ranked the third-largest export country last year, it said.

In 1993, South Korean imports from China amounted to $3.93 billion, about $26 million less than imports from Germany, the KFTA report said.

Korean shipments to the socialist nation rose 21.1 percent, at half the rate of growth in imports from China, to $2.89 billion in the first half of this year, it said.

The rate of growth in exports to China compared with the whopping 94 percent growth rate for the whole of 1993, the report said.

It forecast Korean shipments to China at $6.5 billion this year, up 26 percent from $5.15 billion a year earlier.

Two-way trade between South Korea and China is projected to surpass $10 billion for the first time since the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1992, it said.

Daily Views Policy of Importing Foreign Workers

SK0708030694 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Aug 94 p 1

[By staff reporter Yu Chong-mo]

[Text] The government's ambitious plan to alleviate the shortage of manual workers in the domestic manufacturing sector by importing labor from abroad seems to have run into a serious problem.

Early this year, the labor authorities established a plan to bring in about 20,000 foreign workers, dubbed technical trainees, mainly from Southeast Asian countries by the end of August.

Of the planned 20,000 trainees, 12,500 have already arrived in Korea from Nepal, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Vietnam, Myanmar [Burma] and China.

But increasing numbers of the technical trainees invited here have disappeared from the workplace to which they were assigned by contract, complaining that their wage is too small, compared with that of illegal foreign workers.

Debate raged last May when the government set the monthly wages for the technical trainees at between $200 and $260, although other foreign workers who are illegally staying here are receiving more than $500 a month.

The wide gap between the going rate and the new official wages has finally started to create grave problems, tempting workers to leave their contracted employers.

The scenario gains credibility considering the seriousness of the labor shortage at the nation's small- and medium-sized manufacturers.

A recent Korea Federation of Small Business (KFSB) report shows that as many as 157,000 more workers are needed in the so-called 3-D (dirty, dangerous and difficult) sector.

According to the Justice Ministry's latest figures, more than 200 of the 12,500 technical trainees are currently missing.

In April, for example, four Philippine trainees working at a machinery factory in Chinchon, North Chungchong Province, disappeared.

Another group of 20 technical trainees from the Philippines suddenly deserted their workplace at an industrial complex in Chongju, North Chungchong Province, in July.

Labor experts presume that the missing trainees are working at other unauthorized manufacturing companies which pay them the going rates of more than $500 a month.

The problem appears particularly serious in that the runaway trainees are very likely to be exploited from some employers.

Furthermore, they won't be insured against possible workplace accidents because of their illegal status.

Critics say such a phenomenon had long been predicted, when the government set the wages for the trainees at an unreasonably low level.

The workers had widely been expected to shop around for better salaries once they find out what the going rates are.

Asked to comment on the problem, a KFSB official said: "The salary level took into consideration what the workers would be paid in their countries, and we offer slightly more."

He conceded that the rates for trainees are low, but emphasized the contracts are legally binding.

Security Prisoners To Be Excluded From Amnesty

SK0608072194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0550 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—The Justice Ministry plans to exclude public security-related prisoners from a special release on parole to be effected around August 13 on the occasion of the 49th anniversary of the national liberation from the Japanese colonial rule.

Such a step is being taken under a government policy to separate from society for a considerable period of time leftist elements who have been convicted under the National Security Law, a ministry official said Saturday [6 August].

Over 800 inmates will be released from prison on parole next week.

Even those public security-related prisoners who are eligible for parole, having served more than two thirds of their terms, will be excluded from the forthcoming parole, according to the official.

Referring to former lawmaker Pak Chol-on who has served 11 months of his 1.5-year prison term for taking bribes, the official said that Pak has not shown any sign of repentance. Thus he is unlikely to be included in the upcoming parole, he said.

Prosecutor Forbids Fifth Seoul Pannational Rally

SK0908093094 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The Prosecutor's Office has decided to block in advance the fifth pannational rally scheduled to be held in Seoul for three days beginning 13 August, calling it an illegal meeting, and to take legal action against anyone involved in the off-stage opposition organizations if they go ahead with the rally. The decision was made at the Public Security Department in an 9 August meeting of the Supreme Prosecutor's Office held to cope with the pannational rally. The meeting was participated in by officials from the agencies concerned, such as the Ministry of Education, the National Police Headquarters, and the Ministry of Culture and Sports.

However, the Prosecutor's Officer decided to allow [hoyonghagiro kyolchong haetssomnida] the Headquarters of the Movement To Realize Human Chains Between the South and North to hold a rally to pray for peaceful unification which is scheduled to be held at Panmunjom on 15 August, and for Hanchongnyon to conduct a grand cross-country march.

Reaction to Report on Leftists Running Councils

SK0608124294

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of editorials from 6 August ROK vernacular newspapers on reaction to the report by the Agency for National Security Planning that many student councils across the country are controlled by leftist students and intellectuals following Kim Il-song's chuche idea.

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN carries on page 3 an editorial entitled "Those Who Follow the Chuche Idea Must Be Rooted Out." The editorial expresses great shock upon learning of the "perfect upper and lower organizations" of the followers of chuche idea, and from the "irresponsibility of our society that has raised them." The editorial criticizes authorities, universities, and intellectual groups for their "neglect of duty" for not making efforts to unveil or block "unusual things sensed and claimed by many people in campuses and work sites in the past."

The editorial notes it is fortunate to the country and the nation that the true nature of the pro-North Korean group has now been revealed, thanks to the "brave proclamation" by the president of a university in Seoul, and concludes by stressing that the group's "worthless and silly attempt to suffocate us by sticking to and sponging off us must be rooted out" in order to "save those young people who are indulged in an anachronistic ideology game."

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN carries on page 3 an editorial entitled "An Entreaty to the Students Movement." The editorial explains the "close relations in history" between the student movement and the political movement in the ROK and notes: "It is difficult to describe our modern history without noting the students' fierce struggle and sacrifice. Their contribution is brilliantly shining in history."

Noting that students' organizations are now undergoing great hardships, the editorial continues: "Externally, they are intensely attacked by the conservative media under the security-oriented oppression of the authorities, and internally, they are indecisive regarding the direction of the student movement and in handling organizational issues." The editorial hopes that students will wisely overcome the difficulties they are faced with.

The editorial comments that the "students' deep interest in the North Korean ruling ideology, such as the chuche idea, is understandable because it comes out of the sheer desire to overcome the situation of national division and to achieve national reunification." The editorial stresses that "since the chuche idea has not been entirely verified in our society, it is imprudent for students to give it excessive value, other than academic interest."

The editorial then entreats students not to create distrust and discord inside students' organizations and to "remain a potential political force" until the society "matures."

Chusapa Students' Infiltration Into Army Viewed

SK0908122094

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of editorials carried in Seoul's vernacular newspapers on 9 August regarding the infiltration into the military of Chusapa students (those students who follow Kim Il-song's chuche philosophy).

The moderate HANGUK ILBO publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial which expresses concern over the vast number of Chusapa students on campus and in the military. The editorial expresses surprise when quoting a police disclosure that states: "The so- called Chusapa students hold the reins of the general student councils at 84 colleges and universities, 52 percent of the 162 colleges and universities across the country. Since 1991, students at 52 colleges and universities have conducted illegal telecommunications with North Korea on 156 occasions." The editorial also expresses shock at an opposition lawmaker's disclosure: "Presently, approximately 1,500 former student activists are serving in the military. In particular, Chusapa students are implementing an active strategy to attempt to disintegrate the military command system. Most of their leaders are already enlisted in the military."

Further astonished when a publisher publishes Kim Il-song's memoirs, the editorial reviews the origin and falsehood of the chuche idea, as well as the distorted facts in Kim Il-song's memoirs. The editorial concludes by urging concerned authorities to deal a hard blow to the disease called Chusapa in a resolute manner with a view to helping eliminate the citizens' apprehensions.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 3 a 800-word editorial also expressing concern over the report that Chusapa students have advanced into the military, saying it is a grave matter directly related to the country's security. Reviewing the Kimilsongism Youth League's behind-the-scenes wire pulling in controlling Chusapa students, the editorial examines the goal of Chusapa students to unnerve the military command system and disintegrate the military organization. The editorial reviews recent incidents which have taken place in the military as a result of loose military discipline, including a military intelligence officer's divulgence of secrets to a foreign agency, with a view to placing emphasis on the military security and security management. The editorial raises suspicions that such incidents were committed by Chusapa people loyal to Kim Chong-il. The editorial concludes by stressing: "Even in a civilian government, there should never be a loosening in the military command system or a weakening in anticommunist activities."

Prosecution on Bribes Received by KEPCO Head

SK0608071194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0431 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—The prosecution, investigating former Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) President An Pyong-hwa on graft charges, suspects that An had received about 400 million won in bribes from the chairmen of two leading business groups in connection with the construction of atomic power plants.

An was arrested last Thursday on the initial charges of pocketing 200 million won from the Korean agent of a Canadian atomic energy corp.

A source at the Central Investigation Department of the Prosecutor General's Office said Saturday [6 August] An is suspected of receiving a total of about 400 million won in the amounts of 100 or 200 million won in July 1991 from the chairmen of two conglomerates involved in the construction of the Wolsong Atomic Power Plant.

An, one-time trade-industry minister, has admitted taking the 400 million won, saying he had purchased the certificates of deposits (CD) with the money, the source said.

If any evidence of graft were obtained, the source said, the conglomerate chairmen involved would be summoned and questioned.

A KEPCO spokesman said Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. is in charge of Wolsong Atomic Power Plant No. 2 currently under work and Daewoo Corp in charge or Wolsong Plants No. 3 and 4.

Tong-A Construction Co. and Hanguk Heavy Machinery Industry Co. are in charge of building Uljin Plants No. 3 and 4 while Hyundai oversees Yongkwang Plant No. 3 and 4.

'Growing Concern' Over KEPCO Scandal Reported

SK0908085794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0809 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—With the investigation of the graft scandal involving former Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) President An Pyong-hwa expanding, there is growing concern about whether the investigation will develop into a second anti-corruption drive of the Kim Yong-sam government targeting on the influence selling by those in the core of power in the Sixth Republic.

The scandal smacks of a typical misdeed by those who wielded power in the previous administrations, as An was close to these power-wielders in the Sixth Republic and some business tycoons are implicated.

But Chongwadae [presidential offices] officials and law-enforcement authorities reject such a view of the scandal, saying it is "an accidental happening," never "a targeted investigation with a political intention."

The scandal surfaced by chance in the course of investigating small businessman Pak Pyong-chan charged with illegally taking foreign exchange funds out of the country, they say.

"Because you cannot cover a criminal act discovered while investigating a specific case, the government has started probing into the scandal thoroughly: It does not have any particular intention, nor is it expanding the investigation," one of them says.

"It's by no means an investigation with the target set in advance."

There is no need to have a view that the investigation will develop into a second anti-corruption drive against irregularities committed under the Sixth Republic, as some politician are worried, another official says.

"Because the scandal surfaced in the wake of the three parliamentary by-elections held earlier in the month, some politicians may take it as a targeted investigation, but it's just coincidental and the investigation is never being conducted with any political intention," he stresses.

In one such election held in Taegu, the wife of former Rep. Pak Chol-on, who lost his parliamentary seat as the Supreme Court convicted him of bribery last June, captured victory on an opposition party ticket. Pak was in the core of power in the Sixth Republic, often referred to as "the crown prince" of the republic.

"When a new criminal act is uncovered in the course of investigating a criminal case, you cannot overlook it in consideration of its possible repercussions, can you? So, it's nonsensical to view the investigation as having a political background or intention," the official says.

In view of this position of the government on the scandal, the investigation appears to be completed with judicial action against Daewoo Group Chairman Kim U-chung and Dong-A Group Chairman Choe Won-sok charged with having given bribes to An Pyong-hwa.

Still another official says, "I understand the prosecution has not detected any particular thing in its examinations of An's bankbooks.

"Considering that Mr. An is keeping the money he took from the two group chairmen and Mr. Pak in several certificates of deposit, I can say there is a very slim possibility that he gave the money to politicians.

"I don't think the prosecution's investigation is extending to other business groups." He thus suggests that the investigation will shortly come to an end.

But the prosecution appears to be taking great pains over the case involving Daewoo Group Chairman Kim and Dong-A Group Chairman Choe.

Their arrest would result in shrinking business activities of the two business groups. But in case they are not arrested, there would be an issue of equity in the enforcement of law and the prosecution would be under fire for its favorable treatment of business tycoons.

But the prosecution, considering a bribe of 200 million won is but a relatively small thank-you money in an atomic power plant construction project costing hundreds of billions of won, appears to have decided to deal legally with the two business tycoons without detaining them.

* Deepening Regionalism May Alter Political Scene

942C0151A Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean Jun 94

[By reporter Choe Hyong-nyol]

[Jun 94 pp 252-256]

[Text]

Regionalism Expected To Dictate Next General Election

[Boxed item: Three-dimensional coverage. Disunity of Kyongsang Province Greatest Variable in Makeup of Next Administration]

[Boxed item: Interview/Election, Opinion-Poll Expert An Pun-kun's Forecast for the 15th General, Presidential Elections]

Opposition Majority Predicted for 15th General Election, Presidential Election To Be Free-For-All

The Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] was defeated in the 1993 Tong-ul, Taegu special election. The "Taegu sentiment" spoke in votes. "If a new party is formed before the 15th general and presidential elections with a base in the Taegu and North Kyongsang Province [TK] area, a new political scene would unfold in a way similar to that of the 13th general election, predicted An Pu-kun. He said that the "difficult-to-predict inclinations" of people in their twenties, who make up some 31 percent of voters, would be the greatest variable.

Disappointment Linked With Voting

Kyongsang Province makes up about one-third of our country's population. Public sentiment here is changing. With the Pusan-South Kyongsang Province [PK] and TK friction caused by the reforms of President Kim Yong-sam, these areas in particular are turning their backs on the administration.

Feeling a comparatively great deal of political alienation, the people of the Taegu, North Kyongsang Province region could express their "disappointment" with votes in the next election. If they create a "New Taegu Party" and put forward an independent candidate, they could change the composition of the political scene.

Election and opinion-poll expert An Pu-kun (specializes in media research) views regionalism as the greatest factor characterizing our country's elections since the 13th general election. He says he reached this conclusion by analyzing the 13th and 14th general and presidential elections.

Attention Should Be Given to DLP defeat in 1993 Tong-ul, Taegu Special Election

Analyzing the estrangement of Taegu-North Kyongsang area within the framework of regionalism, An said that, for the next general election, ruling-party legislators would run as independents in large numbers or, if a "New Taegu Party" should appear based in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region, it could cause a political situation similar to that of the 13th general election, with a ruling party minority and opposition majority. In such circumstances, he says, the 15th presidential election is forecast to be an unpredictable "free-for-all."

To the first question, "Is it true the public sentiment of Kyongsang Province is changing?" he answered carefully, "It's not something you can say exactly, one way or the other."

[Interviewer] Could you first examine the variables dividing the public sentiment of Kyongsang Province? Of those such as Pak Chun-kyu and Pak Chol-on, who resigned in the name of reform after the birth of the Kim Yong-sam administration, many were from the Taegu-North Kyongsang region. Are not many people from that region feeling relatively dissatisfied?

[An] I want to interpret it in this way. The old Democratic Party [DP] faction is the real power within the DLP, but with few of its members being lawmakers in the National Assembly, it is only the number-two shareholder. The DP faction will continue its efforts to make up this discrepancy, that is, efforts to become the number-one shareholder by expanding its power. Whether you call it a change of personnel or the replacement of one generation by another, the work of putting in order the DLP's local party chapters is ultimately a "movement to expand the DP faction."

However, the brakes were already being applied to the movement to expand the DP faction beginning with the 1993 special elections. The DLP won in the 1993 Pusan special elections because it is a DP-faction area. But this was only breaking even: in Kwangmyong, it barely came away with Sok-ul. Let's look at the Myongju, Yangyang, Chorwon, Hwachon, North Kyongsang Province, and Yechon special elections carried out 50 days later. The DLP was narrowly successful in Yechon, and failed in Myongju and Yangyang.

The Tong-ul, Taegu special election is worthy of notice. This was the electoral district of former National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, one of the powerful from Taegu who boasted influence in the center of power for 30 years. Bastion of the ruling party, the election here ended in the failure of the DLP. The Tong-ul, Taegu special election has special significance in that it was the occasion for spread of phrases such as "the Taegu sentiment," and so on.

[Interviewer] Do you mean the DP faction created an atmosphere of expanding its power, but with little real substance?

[An] In a president-centered system, the faction to which the president belongs inevitably becomes the center of power, regardless. But isn't the problem that at present this faction is not the most powerful because it has few people in the National Assembly? Looking at the course of the 1993 special elections, one has to say that the voting tendencies of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region functioned as a stumbling block, preventing the narrowing of this distance.

[Interviewer] Ultimately, then, the present administration will continue trying to expand its power, and the public sentiment of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region will deteriorate further.

[An] Some people, mentioning the "Taegu sentiment" or the "TK sentiment," speak of the alienation of the public sentiment of this region as if it were an established fact. However, there is one thing that should be mentioned briefly here. As was reported in the media, a short time ago in a poll of 600 Taegu citizens, only 27 percent responded that a "Taegu sentiment" exists; 71.7 percent said either, "does not exist," or, "uncertain."

Given these figures alone, one must conclude that the "Taegu sentiment," as a concrete consensus, does not exit, or that if it does it is insignificant. However, beneath this public opinion, the part seen externally, is a hidden sentiment not well grasped by such simple questions.

If you meet with several Taegu citizens and ask them bluntly, many will say "There is no such thing as a Taegu sentiment." Generally, however, when an external group points out negative characteristics, the inner group tends to deny this. If in a roundabout way one asks the Taegu citizens who deny the existence of a "Taegu sentiment," some will give voice to their sense of loss, saying something like, "The power has moved out." For now, therefore, we should pay attention to the results of the last special elections rather than arguing over whether there is such a thing as a "Taegu sentiment." In the Tong-ul, Taegu special election, an independent candidate lead the DLP candidate by a much greater margin than expected. For now, this fact is itself important.

Votes May Go to Other Than Ruling and Opposition Parties

[Interviewer] Why is the "Taegu sentiment" such a problem for the present government?

[An] In view of the regionalistic voting tendencies seen in every election, Pusan and South Kyongsang Province—President Kim Yong-sam's regional base of support—will go with the candidate supported by him in the next election too. So isn't it natural that the voting direction of the remaining Taegu-North Kyongsang region would become important?

[Interviewer] Then if the public sentiment of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region has been alienated, what effect will this have on the upcoming 15th general election?

[An] On the premise that the present political composition will continue as it is, the voting inclinations of Taegu will play an important role in the next election. Don't they point to the DLP and say it is barely holding, just "stitched together." If this fence-sitting continues, it is possible votes will go elsewhere than the ruling and opposition parties. However, this is based on the premise that the present composition of the political scene will be maintained as it is and that there will be no decisive change in this area.

[Interviewer] What about the 15th presidential election?

[An] Comparing the results of general and presidential elections up till now, prospects are that the DLP presidential candidate will get more Taegu-North Kyongsang votes than in the 15th general election, because voters in presidential elections have a relatively strong tendency to lean toward the ruling party.

[Interviewer] Ultimately, given the present sentiment of Taegu and North Kyongsang Province, will this region's votes go to the ruling party, opposition party, or a third body?

[An] In the recent series of elections, the Taegu-North Kyongsang area has been a bastion of the ruling party. However, the axis of power changed after the 14th presidential election; it is a matter of great interest as to whether inclinations existing up till now will be maintained intact. First of all, for now, no one in the DLP is being highlighted as a candidate with nationwide influence. But, given the voting tendency which has existed until now, there is little possibility that the residents of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region will vote for a candidate put forward by the primary opposition party. This is a dilemma. We cannot entirely exclude the possibility that the Taegu-North Kyongsang vote will go to a third person. I believe there will be many who will refrain from voting.

[Interviewer] What will happen if a new party appears in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region?

[An] The appearance of a new party based in Taegu and North Kyongsang will mean a change in the composition of the political scene. If that happens, then the new party will scrape up many mainly DLP votes in the 15th general election. Ultimately, there is a possibility we may see a government-minority-opposition-majority political situation similar to that of the 13th general election. The presidential election too will unfold in a manner similar to that of the 13th presidential election, in which candidates Kim Yong-sam and No Tae-u divided up the votes of Kyongsang Province.

[Interviewer] Is there no possibility that a person representing Taegu will be elected in the Taegu mayoral and North Kyongsang Province gubernatorial elections to be held next year?

[An] At present, I can't say anything conclusive. This is because, not only can local-autonomy elections, general elections, and presidential elections differ in their character, but the candidates themselves are also important. Also, because local-autonomy elections signify the selection of workers to take charge of a region's local affairs, policy-related campaign promises and local projects may become more important than in other elections.

[Interviewer] Once again putting Taegu's high-speed train underground was done in preparation for the election of local-council chiefs, right?

[An] For now, I don't believe there is a need to think about the high-speed rail issue in direct connection with the local-autonomy elections. In Taegu there seems to be an atmosphere of grief over the fact that the question of whether to make the rail above or below ground has become a point of dispute. This wouldn't have happened in the past. It hurts their pride that the issue is being raised in this manner.

Appearance of New Party in Taegu to Result in Ruling Party Minority, Opposition Majority

[Interviewer] Does this mean public sentiment cannot be treated symptomatically?

[An] Public sentiment is closely related to fundamental interests deeply hidden in the heart that people do not want to outwardly express. The direction of public sentiment cannot be changed with short-term, one-time measures.

An predicted that if a new party was formed with a base in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region, the 15th general and presidential elections would unfold in a manner similar to 13th. He said that a ruling-party-minority government would again come on the scene and that the presidential election too would be a totally unpredictable free-for-all. This is because in the 15th presidential election, just as candidate No Tae-u did in the 13th, the Taegu candidate would take all the Taegu-North Kyongsang region's votes.

This analysis is based on the premise that the candidate supported by Asia-Pacific Peace Foundation Director Kim Tae-chung would take most of the votes of the Honam region. As proof that it is difficult to hope for other change in the Honam region, he presents the fact that candidate Kim Tae-chung obtained 93.4 percent of the vote of the Kwangju-area, central to Honam, in the 13th presidential election and 95.1 percent in the 14th.

[Interviewer] Is there no possibility South Kyongsang Province may experience small-scale division? Aren't portions of northern South Kyongsang Province included in the economic sphere of North Kyongsang Province?

[An] That doesn't mean, however, that it will take many South Kyongsang votes. It is already the regional base of the present president. Also, fundamentally it is a rural area in which the ruling-party premium can operate.

[Interviewer] There is no reason the phenomenon of rural support for the ruling party and urban support of the opposition should continue indefinitely, is there? Moreover, hasn't the sense of loss felt by farmers increased due to rice problems such as the Uruguay Round [UR] crisis?

[An] I feel the same way. Partially, the effects of rural public opinion, deteriorated due to the UR crisis, etc., cannot be completely ignored. Kangwon Province in particular is predicted to change considerably. However, regionalism will again appear as a decisive variable late in the election, despite changes in rural public sentiment. But there is also a possibility regions such as Kangwon Province will be an exception.

[Interviewer] Lastly, then, give us your outlook on the 15th presidential election.

[An] The Taegu-North Kyongsang region vote played a big part in Kim Yong-sam being elected president. If the Pusan-South Kyongsang vote and the Honam region vote canceled each other out, then the Taegu-North Kyongsang vote can be said to have elected Kim Yong-sam president. Concerning the "Taegu sentiment," some insist that the ruling party can no longer get the Taegu-North Kyongsang area vote.

Conditions in regions other than Yongnam and Honam are also changing a great deal. In the capital in particular, attention is being given to the continuing trend of superior opposition influence, the alleviation of regionalistic tendencies, the severe population shift, and fluctuations in the voting inclinations of people in their twenties.

We must not miss the new currents of people in their twenties, because their movements can shake the entire election since they make up over 31 percent of present voters.

[Jun 94 pp 257-261]

[By reporter Sok Chon-hun]

[Text]

Angry TK Province Breaks Yongnam Region Unity

Feeling deprived by the winds of reform after Kim Yong-sam took power, the "TK sentiment" [TK—Taegu-North Kyongsang Province area] changed to an "anti-Kim Yong-sam sentiment" after the decision to make the Seoul-Pusan high-speed rail above ground in the area where it passes through Taegu. Some ruling-party politicians have even said they have to get on President Kim's bad side if they are going to win in the next election.

Newly Coined Phrase, TK Sentiment

At the parliamentary inspection site in Taegu last year, the "TK sentiment" became the subject of a round of controversy. Ruling-party lawmakers all questioned, "What in the world is the 'TK sentiment,' and how strong is it?" Opposition lawmakers: "You've enjoyed power long enough. Are you sad now that you can no longer enjoy its benefits?" Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] lawmakers from Taegu and North Kyongsang Province said something along the lines of, "There are probably ways in which you are being treated badly. Tell us about it." In answering, however, Taegu Mayor Yi Ui-ik equivocated. This was because he could not really just talk openly about the subject, but it was also difficult to feign ignorance, and say, "That's the first I've heard of that."

Since the birth of the Kim Yong-sam administration, words used as often as the "TK sentiment" is in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region have been rare. When a policy more or less disadvantageous to the Taegu-North Kyongsang region comes up in conversation, without exception it is accompanied by dissatisfaction calling it, "a decision disregarding the TK sentiment." The appointment of a figure from this area to an important post is followed by the analysis, "Consideration was taken for the TK sentiment." However, no one is able to definitively say, this is what is called the "TK sentiment." Everyone has a different definition. Some even say, "It's just a phrase created by busybodies. It actually has little to do with residents."

Regardless, one fact is clear: whatever it is called, the mood of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region has been changing from what it was before the birth of the Kim Yong-sam government. It tends, of course, in an "anti-Kim Yong-sam" direction. Responding most sensitively to changes in the region's mood are the politicians managing the "voting fields." The recent sudden increase in trips to Taegu by DLP figures gives one a real sense of the changed atmosphere.

Taegu Trips by Opposition Party Officials

Invited 6 April by the Kyemong University General Students Association, Democratic Party [DP] President

Yi Ki-taek visited Taegu to give a speech entitled, "The Historical Significance of the 19 April Revolution and the Role of the Younger Generation Facing the 21st Century." It was already his fourth visit this year. In January, he was the first politician to visit Taegu after the Nakdong River Pollution Incident. In February, he returned after holding an informal get-together in Taegu on the invitation of the Korean Senior Citizens Association and the Taegu Alliance of the Disabled. In March, he arranged for a meeting with Taegu-area labor figures. After lectures in April, he is planning a meeting with Taegu-area environmental groups in May as well. Thus, he has visited Taegu once per month. Along with his frequent trips to Taegu, Yi brings up the fact that his hometown is Yongil, in North Kyongsang Province. He appears to be preparing outright to build a base in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region.

Not only party president Yi, but DP standing adviser Kim Sang-hyon has also got his eyes on Taegu. Although adding the precondition, "If I am elected DP president," Kim has even openly declared, "I will run in Taegu in the general election, becoming a sacrificial lamb for the resolution of regional antagonism." There is an aspect of inevitability to Yi's showing great interest in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region, because it is difficult for him to maintain a foothold in Pusan, which had been his political base. There is also a complex calculation, such as concerning dynamic relationships within the party, behind Kim's statement that he would run in Taegu, and it is still unclear whether this will be realized. However, the behavior of these two DP leaders would have been unthinkable one year ago.

"The significance of the trips to Taegu by Party President Yi and adviser Kim should not be underestimated," says Paek Sung-hong, manager of the DP's Taegu branch office. The DP has discovered that the Taegu area is no longer an impregnable fortress, but a "land of hope." This is so much so that Yi and Kim feel it is worth attempting a "play for victory," it is argued. "People hoping for a DP nomination for next year's June integrated elections have greatly increased," say DP officials. "If Pak Chol-on's guilty verdict is confirmed, the change will immediately become visible in the special election once again to be held in Taegu," they state, showing their confidence.

The Taegu-North Kyongsang region has produced three presidents, from Pak Chung-hi and Chon Tu-hwan through No Tae-u, and, as the "home of power," has for over 30 years been building its image as the "eternal bastion of the ruling party." The city and provincial assemblies are as always controlled by the DLP; and up until the last election, it handed over 60 percent of its vote to Kim Yong-sam. What could have happened in the little over a year since the appearance of the "TK sentiment" that the opposition-party leadership would say it was a place "worth making a play for victory," and move in confidently? Will an opposition party wind really blow, as the DP side "observes" and "hopes," through integrated regional assembly and local-council chief elections and the National Assembly elections to be held in just over a year?

"Anti-Kim Yong-sam Sentiment" Spreads

"One thing is clear: 'anti-Kim Yong-sam sentiment' is spreading in this area," according to the analysis of local figures. The dominant opinion is that it began with a sense of deprivation from being pushed out of the center of power and from "Kim Yong-sam's poor treatment of TK," which confirmed this sense of deprivation. One official of the North Kyongsang provincial office describes the "sense of deprivation" this way.

"It is not exactly that we have lost some privilege after enjoying it for a time. People in the Taegu area have lived feeling close to power, so much so that the saying has circulated, 'There is no one who, if they go through a few people, such as middle and high school alumni or in-laws, is without connections to the Blue House.' To use a vulgar term, they had someone on the inside. But, excluding a few people, the region as a whole did not receive any real help.

What was it that the three presidents, Pak Chung-hi, Chon Tu-hwan, and No Tae-u, actually did for Taegu and Kyongsang Province? Try going once to the northern part of North Kyongsang Province. There is not one building in good condition and there are many places without proper roads. Most counties in the northern region have had their populations reduced by half in the last 20 to 30 years. They say the situation is similar in most rural communities, but residents greatly complain that the development of their area is far behind that of South Kyongsang, Cholla, and Chungchong Provinces. The financial self-sufficiency rate of North Kyongsang Province is 30 percent. Taegu is said to be a textile city, but it has not one textile center. Now area residents are advocating the establishment of a trade center and the construction of a Taegu international airport as long-desired projects, and they are anxious to attract a Samsung automobile factory. This shows that they received no preferential treatment in the past.

Even so, the people of Taegu and North Kyongsang have never thought even once, "We're being treated badly." They have lived with the thought, "It may be pride, or tolerance, or a mistaken idea to think, 'Even so, we have power.'" Then, when the axis of power actually moved, they came to have the mentality that says, 'We've lost something important.'

It was the reform that made them actually feel this "sense of deprivation." It was true that, inasmuch as there were relatively many people living in the sunshine during the 30-some years people from this region held the reins of power, there could not help but be many who would become the "targets" of the new administration. This resulted in a concentration of persons who were the subjects of the reform.

"It is probably this region which, since Kim Yong-sam took office, has felt most painfully the words reform and change," said this provincial-office official. Seeing people of this region from every class and field, including once-powerful politicians recognized on the stage of national politics, being helplessly forced out of power, he said, "I understood it rationally, but started to feel a strange sense of betrayal."

Even up to this time, though, the so-called TK sentiment had not spread. Apart from local feeling, there were many applauding the bold reforms, and expectations for the new beginnings of the civilian government were high. However, this expectation started to quickly change into open antipathy as it was announced that the Pusan section of the Seoul-Pusan high-speed rail, originally designed to be above-ground, was to be made underground and the Taegu branch, which had been planned to be underground, would be made above-ground.

Local feeling worsened as rumors circulated that even the second horse track, which by campaign promise was supposed to be built in Kyongju, would be moved to Pusan. "We hear various news on development from Pusan: that it will be attracting the Asian Games, that it will build a trade center. In Taegu, even the things that were promised us are being taken away. Who would like that?" countered a local media person.

According to the analysis of some, the retirement of Kim Tae-chung from politics secretly weakened the "new Kim Yong-sam feeling" of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region. One official of the DLP's Taegu branch office understands it as follows: "In the presidential election too, regional feeling—the concern that Kim Tae-chung might be elected if the vote were dispersed—was a strong factor in the votes going to Kim Yong-sam. Many people at that time felt there was no other alternative. If Kim Tae-chung were still in politics, the situation might be somewhat different."

Nothing Has Improved Since the New Administration Took Power

Here, even nationwide problems, not just those of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region, acted to incite an "anti-Kim Yong-sam mentality." With President Kim already out of favor, problems such as the opening of the rice market, Nakdong River pollution, and price increases made matters worse. "There is probably no direct relation with the TK sentiment, but the dissatisfaction of farmers with the government is greater than ever, due to cold-weather damage compensation, the Uruguay Round negotiations, and other farm-policy failures by the new administration," said Hong Se-gi, president of the Yongdok County Farmer's Association, North Kyongsang Province.

"At 0.51 percent last March, the Taegu area dishonored-bill rate is close to four times the national average (0.13 percent). The unemployment rate too is over twice the national average. As the perception spreads among Taegu-North Kyongsang area businessmen that little has improved since the new administration took office, it has interlocked with the so-called TK sentiment, stirring up an anti-Kim Yong-sam mentality," according to the analysis of one person associated with Taegu-area financial circles.

Of course, among some figures, the TK sentiment is said to be "no more than a deception created by some political groups for securing a base in the area." Lawyer Chong Han-yong gave his opinion, "People who like making up things are going around jabbering about ill-treatment in Taegu, the fall of Taegu, and so on. But the year since the new administration took power can also be viewed as a necessary time, advantageous for lessening the political overload with which this region has been burdened and for filtering out the remnants of respectful distance and unpleasant misunderstanding residents of other areas may have toward Taegu."

"The phrase, TK sentiment, itself is nothing more than a bewitching and treacherous incantation," said Chong, pointing out, "We must not be taken in by this attempt at group hypnosis, but must gather our strength in developing Taegu into a cultural city and an economic city."

However, the reality is that the "anti-Kim Yong-sam mentality" is as strong as ever. Opinion polls too show support for President Kim remaining at a level lower than even the Honam region. People openly say, "Just wait until the local-autonomy elections next year." Even DLP officials are grumbling, "At the very least, we can't go with a DLP sign." Some are even heard to say, "Get in bad with Kim Yong-sam, get kicked out of the DLP, and you can win a seat to the National Assembly in the next election." Even though after much debate Kyongju was decided upon as the site for the second horse track, many residents reacted bitterly, "They're just throwing us a bone, expecting a special election to be held in Taegu." As for the problem over the Taegu section of the high-speed railway, which was a factor touching off the "anti-Kim Yong-sam feeling," even if the administration were to alter the plan to make the section below-ground, this would be devalued as "currying favor for the election."

There are many variables, of course. Regardless of ill feeling toward Kim Yong-sam and the DLP, the people of Taegu and North Kyongsang Province in fact have few alternatives from which to choose. Some even predict, "If the forces of the 5th and 6th Republics were to become a political power, they might stir up a wind at least in the Taegu-North Kyongsang area." There is little chance of 5th- and 6th-Republic forces forming a political party any time soon, however. There are also those who think the local sentiment could easily take the form of disinterest in politics. Regardless, the opposition DP is now aggressively leaping at the opportunity, saying "It's now worth a try." The DLP is anxious, however, saying, "It is worrisome, but we have no effective alternative." No longer the subjects of special attention within the DLP, National Assembly lawmakers hailing from the area are suffering, caught between the mood within the party and the emotions of residents.

Visit by Director Kim Tae-chung

During "Conversation With the Author" last 9 April, arranged by the *Kyongnam Ilbo*, Asia-Pacific Peace Foundation Director Kim Tae-chung, who as the author of *For a New Beginning* was visiting Taegu for the first time since the presidential election, brought up the TK sentiment, saying the following:

"It is my understanding that at one time some citizens of this area felt they were politically superior. When campaigning in the last presidential election, I saw the large audience gathered in Taegu's Turyu Park and thought, 'Now I'm going to get a few votes even in Taegu.'" But this wasn't the case when I actually saw the results of the ballot. I realized that the walls of regional feeling are still great. Recently I've heard that the people of Taegu and North Kyongsang are feeling a sense of inferiority, "being pushed out by PK [Pusan-South Kyongsang region]." There is need to feel neither superior nor inferior. You produced a president some three times, but, excluding a few people, what great benefit did you get?"

Saying he has felt the walls of regionalism in every election, Director Kim in closing requested, "I'm not going to be involved in politics, but in the future, citizens of Taegu, cast your vote based on a person's qualifications as assemblyman or president, not on the region he or she is from." Ironically, in the upcoming elections these words may have to be spoken by candidates from the DLP.

"Please don't look at the party when you vote; look at the person."

[Jun 94 pp 262-266]

[By reporter Pak Chu-yong]

[Text]

Unhappy Pusan Citizens Still Love Kim Yong-sam

As with other regions, support for Kim Yong-sam in the Pusan area is waning. However, those feeling a sense of joint responsibility concerning Kim Yong-sam showed a careful attitude, saying that Pusan has never received preferential treatment and that the Taegu-North Kyongsang region's anti-Kim Yong-sam sentiment is a misunderstanding.

Rapid Increase in Negative Assessment of Kim Yong-sam

"Today is a good day. Free Pokkuk." Thus read the sign on one Pokkuk restaurant in Namchon-tong, Nam-ku, Pusan on 19 December 1992. On this day the restaurant did not take money from customers looking for Pokkuk. Costing more than 5,000 won per bowl of soup, Pokkuk is a bit expensive to just give away.

However, this was the day candidate Kim Yong-sam's election as president was confirmed. "I did it because a person raised in Pusan, who will do an excellent job of leading the nation in the future, was elected president. It was so great I felt like flying," said the owner, Mr. Yi (37). Of course, Mr. Yi is neither a member of the DLP nor a person with political connections. He is merely an ordinary citizen of Pusan. The support of Pusan residents for Kim Yong-sam can be seen even with this one example.

It has now been over one year. Are the people of Pusan devoted in their support for the Kim Yong-sam administration, or has this dropped precipitously, as in the public-opinion polls of survey organizations?

In the present circumstances, the emotions of the people of Pusan are, on the outside, the same as ever. In opinion polls and other figures seen from the outside, there is no great difference with other regions. Just as in other regions, Kim Yong-sam's popularity has greatly dropped recently compared with just after he took office.

First, let us look at the results of opinion polls. In a survey-questionnaire directed toward the residents of the Pusan-South Kyongsang region carried out late last February, one year after the birth of the new administration, 54.1 percent of respondents gave a positive evaluation of the present administration. In the same opinion poll carried out 100 days after President Kim's inauguration, 84.8 percent answered that he had done well.

Contrarily, in one opinion poll conducted by a Seoul opinion-survey organization 80.8 percent responded that the new administration was doing well 100 days after taking office; at one year the ratio was 50.1 percent. The studies of both organizations show a 30-percent drop in popularity. They also showed that the people of Pusan support the Kim Yong-sam administration by about 4 percent more than other areas.

Viewed externally, there is little difference between changes in the Pusan region and those in other areas. Taking it a step further, however, one can read signs of extraordinary change. Looking at the above opinion polls, in the Pusan-South Kyongsang region the ratio of negative answers concerning the overall evaluation of the Kim Yong-sam administration was only 3.5 percent 100 days after the inauguration, but jumped to 20.8 percent at the one-year mark. This is a large difference when compared to the increase from 1.3 percent to 9.8 percent seen in nationwide opinion polls. Here is a clue by which it is possible to sense a subtle change in the sentiments of the people of Pusan.

This is also evident in the change in Mr. Yi, the restaurant owner who offered free Pokkuk one year ago. "In short, I'm disappointed. I thought life would get better, but prices are rising and the economy continues to stagnate, only making it more difficult," he said.

Deterioration of the Pusan Economy Also a Factor

It is not only Mr. Yi. Criticism of President Kim is easily heard where people gather for a drink and in taxis. This is evidence by which we can see that critics have spread to a considerable degree. "It is not only the taxi drivers. There are also more passengers expressing disappointment with the present administration," said taxi driver No Won-ki (36, Tokpo-tong, Puk-ku, Pusan).

In fact, this degree of change can be said to be extensive, considering that this is Pusan. As can be seen from the overwhelming victory by the Kim Yong-sam camp in the 13th and 14th general elections and the percentage of the vote obtained by Kim Yong-sam in the 14th presidential election, the fervor of support for Kim in Pusan was enormous. This was so much so in the early period after the birth of the civilian government that a fight could break out over a tactless insult of Kim Yong-sam.

How, then, did such a change occur? The clue to this can be found in the hot support of the people of Pusan for Kim Yong-sam and in their no-less-great expectations. These expectations started with the belief that Kim would loosen a whole society stiffened by authoritarian and undemocratic elements and bring qualitative development.

Lately, however, cracks have started to show here and there in the wall of these expectations. Even while applauding the merits of the anti-corruption campaign, assets registration by government officials, and the real-name system, the people of Pusan felt their hopes dashed in the various mistakes of the new administration. The greater the expectation, the greater the disappointment; so criticism here has become more extensive than in other regions.

"They say they carried out reforms, but it seems the results are not so great as to really be felt in everyday life. Aspects of the management of national affairs based on planning and the system are lacking; many are impromptu. Broad use of talented individuals seems to be lacking from personnel actions," said Mun Sung-hui (52), head of faculty at the University of Pusan. "Honestly, our disappointment is as great as had been our expectations."

Regional problems are another aspect of the expectations concerning the Kim Yong-sam administration held by the people of Pusan. They think that, alienated from the ranks of development since the mid-seventies, Pusan has fallen into an overall stagnation, even moving backwards. This is not completely groundless. It can be vividly seen even in the economic statistics alone.

Let us look at the relative national importance of the Pusan economy, comparing 1975 and 1991 figures. Its population grew from 7 percent of the nation in 1975 to 9 percent. Contrarily, regional production dropped from 9.5 percent to 7.6 percent, and the number of manufacturers was reduced from 11.1 percent to 9.7 percent.

The relative importance of its manufacturing added value and export amounts is more serious. In the case of added value, it fell from 11.3 percent to almost half that, at 6.6 percent. Exports dropped from 24.1 percent to a mere 10.2 percent, less than half of what they had been. Besides this, bank deposits were reduced from 10. 3 percent to 8.3 percent and cleared-bill amounts from 10.4 percent to 2.8 percent.

Beginning over three years ago, the annual freight business of Pusan Harbor, the greatest port nationwide, fell below that of Kwangyang Harbor in South Cholla Province and Pohang Harbor in North Kyongsang Province. Its exports and production also changed to a scale smaller than that of Ulsan. Its living environment too is bad compared with that of other regions. At 14.1 percent, the extent of its road surface area is inferior to Seoul's 19 percent and Taegu's 15 percent, and the lowest ranked in the nation.

The whole nation's freight-carrying container vehicles crowd into Pusan Harbor. Thus, traffic problems are so severe that it is no exaggeration to call the whole city a traffic hell. Land with development potential is a mere 24.6 percent of total area, making it rank last among the nation's big cities. Housing shortages are compounded by a shortage of land for factory use.

No Preferential Treatment in the Pusan Region

Moreover, a crisis consciousness has been spreading for the last two to three years concerning the fall of the footwear industry, the region's main industry, and the foundering of the local economy. Hence, it was inevitable that expectations placed in the Kim Yong-sam administration concerning local development would grow. To this is added a compensation-seeking mentality: they believe they should be given consideration because of this backwardness, for having raised and supported Kim Yong-sam.

"The citizen's hope in the present government for revitalizing the local economy and reviving Pusan, our country's number-two city and its number-one gateway, is almost on a religious level," said Kim Song-su (37), president and operator of a major footwear company in the Sasang Industrial Complex. "They are not hoping for more support than is reasonable, however."

As for expectations concerning this, most of the people of Pusan believe it is being achieved to a certain extent. They are also optimistic that it will be so in the future as well. Generally, they view the beginning of work on the plan to attract the 2002 Asian Games to Pusan, the plan to establish the Pusan International Trade Center, etc., as a basis for this conclusion. This does not mean, however, that there is no one expressing dissatisfaction. Some say that, for resolving the disadvantages and alienation suffered by the people of Pusan, the present development projects are like "trying to thaw out one's frozen foot by urinating on it."

However, the mood is generally one of trying to refrain from demanding of the central government the approval and promotion of, and support for too many local-development projects or from noisily carrying out various projects. This is because of the understanding that it would be easy to stir up the dissatisfaction of other regions, becoming a political burden to Kim Yong-sam and spoiling the work being done. For the same reasons, Pusan municipal authorities, the municipal assembly, and members of the National Assembly from the local area urge prudence or express reluctance concerning the various local demands.

As if for these reasons, almost everyone reacts angrily over the assertion that the Pusan region has received preferential treatment. This is even more the case when this assertion is used by people from the Taegu-North Kyongsang area as grounds for defending the anti-Kim Yong-sam sentiment. Their logic is that the various projects underway in Pusan are not special treatment, but are very necessary for the balanced development of the country.

There are even those who respond, "The present projects are totally insufficient for compensating losses suffered up till now and for bringing parity with other regions and development befitting Pusan's image as the number-two city in the nation." "This going on and on about regional preferential treatment in spite of this fact is not worth thinking about."

Affection for Kim Yong-sam Not Cooling

"I would appreciate it if you would look at the development of Pusan, our nation's second city, from a broader perspective. Not only is it the solitary method for removing obstacles to a balanced development of national land due to excessive centralization, but by making Pusan Harbor, the number-one domestic port, a pivotal harbor of the Pacific Rim, it is an excellent national-development strategy capable of successfully carrying out internationalization," clarified Kang Tae-chan, head of the Pusan Chamber of Commerce survey department.

An interesting aspect of the sentiment of the people of Pusan is that, despite their growing criticism of the present administration and Kim Yong-sam, reportedly, their affection for him is not cooling. Even if an independent candidate with practical ability and highly expert capabilities runs in the election scheduled to be held next year, most predict that a DLP candidate supported by Kim Yong-sam, even though of average skill and expertise, would be elected.

As if for this reason, most are optimistic about Kim Yong-sam's policy blunders and mistakes, believing that they are understandable considering the persecution and adversity he has suffered and that things will improve as he gains more experience. There are also many who think such problems are largely due to the shortcomings of his advisers.

There is another reason the love of the people of Pusan for Kim Yong-sam is not dying. This is their sense of joint responsibility for the Kim Yong-sam whom they have raised and supported. University of Pusan faculty chief Mun expresses it thus, "It is because the people of Pusan's selection of Kim Yong-sam was done with their backs to the wall." That is, with no alternative to equal Kim Yong-sam, their affection for him became blind.

"There are many things to criticize in the new administration's environmental policy, such as the recent Nakdong River Foul-Smelling Tapwater Incident," said An Cha-sun (65), chairperson of the Korean Women's Society's Pusan branch, which has been carrying out a steady environmental campaign, such as opening the Pusan Environmental College. "But that doesn't mean I think Kim Yong-sam is unsuited to be president or that I dislike him."

What will these people from Pusan think of the Taegu-North Kyongsang region's anti-Kim Yong-sam sentiment? Generally, they are disinterested or show a careful reaction. "We do not think, as they do in the Taegu-North Kyongsang region, that Pusan is getting preferential treatment or that the new administration is acting against the interests of Taegu, such as carrying out a selective anti-corruption campaign against some Taegu figures," say members of the disinterested group. "There is no need to show interest in a problem caused by misunderstanding," they insist.

"Regional animosity even within Kyongsang Province could result if we blunder in dealing with this problem," say members of the careful group. According to their diagnosis, "The best policy is to do nothing, acting like it is not there." There is also a hard-line group, however. The ill feelings of the people of Taegu are just complaints which grew into a compensation-seeking mentality when the area suddenly lost its glory, they criticize; the people of Taegu are being so egotistical when they do this despite the fact that, considering the preferential treatment they have long received, the time has come for them to be cautious.

"Regional animosity may also appear between Pusan and Taegu if we start to think of and evaluate various problems based on regional causes. That is the quick way to ruin the country," said Yi Nam-ryol (37), an attorney of the Pusan Lawyer's Association. "When seen from a broader viewpoint, now, with the world entering a period of limitless competition, is the time when we must eliminate regional sentiment."

Cost of Protracted Strike to Hyundai Analyzed

SK0608055994 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Aug 94 p 1

[Text] A protracted strike is costing Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. a big price in the form of unrealized sales and exports. It is also pushing the company's 2,000 suppliers into a corner.

Hyundai said yesterday that it has 338.3 billion won in lost sales, including $227 million in exports since its unionized workers started a partial strike June 24. Its turnover target for this year is 4 trillion won, including $2.7 billion in exports.

Strikes were called on and off at Hyundai before the company locked its 27,000 workers out July 20.

The association of 2,000 suppliers to Hyundai, which builds ships, engines, construction equipment and industrial plants, claimed that the suppliers have lost 112 billion won as the result of the strikes.

Most of the suppliers, who have more than 46,000 people on their payrolls, are small- and medium-sized companies.

With some of the suppliers pleading that they are on the brink of collapsing, the Korea Federation of Small Business urged Hyundai, its union and the government to cooperate to end the strike at an early date.

In its statement, the federation claimed the Hyundai strike is hurting the national economy and pushing 1,500 suppliers close to insolvency.

Despite the low level of their wages, the federation said, workers of the suppliers are trying to contribute to the nation's economic expansion.

"The Hyundai strike must come to an end at an early date for the sake of workers of the suppliers as well as for those whose pay level is 60 percent of large corporations," the federation said.

It also urged the government to exercise its right to emergency arbitration and punish the Hyundai workers who are illegally occupying the shipyard and other work sites.

But government officials responded that they have no intention of sending in riot police at the moment to end the strike forcibly.

They said, however, that the government will bring criminal charges against Hyundai workers violating laws when the current labor-management disputes are settled.

The government, they said, is demanding Hyundai to adhere to the "no work, no pay" rule and seek compensation for damages that have been incurred from the labor union's illegal action.

While the government is waiting for the strike to end without its involvement, the effect of the strike is spilling over not only to the Hyundai suppliers but also to other businesses.

The delivery of ships may be delayed. One such example is a liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier that Hyundai has contracted to deliver to Yukong Line by the end of March next year for its operations in April. Hyundai said work has to resume no later than next Wednesday if it is to meet the delivery schedule. Otherwise, Yukong would have to rent an LNG carrier from abroad for $12 million.

The halt in the manufacture of engines may also delay shipbuilding at other companies. By the end of September, Hyundai has to deliver engines for 16 ships under construction at Samsung Heavy Industries Co.'s shipyard.

The Hyundai strike has also stopped or is threatening to stop construction at steel, oil refinery, power and other plants throughout the country.

Rise in Interest Rates 'Reflects' Money Policy

SK0608055694 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Aug 94 p 17

[By staff reporter Cho Chae-hyon]

[Text] The recent upward spiral in interest rates in the money market reflects the inefficiency of the monetary policy of the central bank, which is responsible for the control of liquidity as measured by M2 [total monetary supply], market analysts said.

M2 indicator includes currency outside banks, and time, demand and savings deposits with banks. But the M2 indicator has limited ability to effectively mirror the total liquidity situation as it does not include deposits of nonbanking financial institutions which account for more than two thirds of the deposit market.

As M2 indicator covers only one third of the total liquidity in the market, analysts argued that the M2 should be replaced with another money indicator like M3 which covers nonbanks like short- term finance firms.

Even though the M2 indicator is a measure of only part of the liquidity of the market, bank officials say, the Bank of Korea [BOK] tightens its reins on banks' credit lines once M2 indicator shows signs of an upturn, causing interest rates to soar as seen in the current money market.

"As the central bank tries to control market liquidity according to the movements of the M2 indicator, banks always become the target of the central bank's tight monetary control," a Seoul bank official said.

To meet semi-monthly legal reserve requirements today, bank officials including executives have gone all out to borrow or raise funds at whatever rates in the call market, even suffering reverse interest margins.

For example, they are now having to issue certificates of deposit (CDs) at interest rates of about 15 percent. They could sell CDs paying only 12-13 percent interest rates just a week ago.

They said if they raise funds by selling CDs at such high issuing rates, they cannot make profits no matter how efficiently they manage the funds raised by sales of the CDs.

A Hanil Bank fund manager said, "The M2 indicator should be replaced with another measuring at least the short-term deposit accounts with nonbanking financial institutions. The BOK should not rely on the M2 indicator as its be-all-and-end-all in keeping money control mechanism on the right track."

Most fund managers of banks claim that as long as the BOK continues to conceptualize control of the money supply as meeting its M2 growth rate target, the actual liquidity condition of the market will not get a look-in in the central bank's monetary policy.

By adhering to the M2 measure, monetary policy makers are failing to see the wood for trees, the Hanil Bank official said.

As to these allegations, many BOK officials said they are well aware that the M2 indicator has limits in measuring the real liquidity condition in the market.

Yi Chon-sik, deputy chief of the monetary department of the BOK, said, "The central bank cannot now change the M2 system because it cannot control nonbanking financial institutions. Furthermore, it takes too much time to figure out the fund flows at nonbanking financial institutions."

His remark indicates that although the BOK knows very well about the inefficiency of the M2 indicator and wants to change the M2 indicator to another one, it cannot because it has not yet found the proper tools to control nonbanking financial institutions.

Kim Chae-chon, BOK's monetary control division chief, admitted the central bank needs to change its money growth indicator in the long-run.

However, he said, "The matter of dropping the M2 indicator for another should be left until after the financial market reform plan is completed around 1997. It is premature to consider it right now even if there are problems with it."

He added that one of the alternatives the central bank is studying for more efficient money control is a new indicator which can measure short-term deposit accounts with nonbanking financial institutions.

Kim continued that in the long run, the central bank's money indicator should cover certain types of deposits, especially those with high liquidity, regardless of whether the deposits are with banks or nonbanks.

Many BOK officials said that before complaining about the central bank's monetary policy, banks must make effort to more efficiently manage their funds by cultivating ability to make right predication of future fund flows.

BOK To Release 1 Trillion Won Into Economy

SK0608072394 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Aug 94 p 17

[Text] The central bank said it will release about one trillion won this month.

In July, the total money supply, as measured by the M2 [total monetary supply] indicator, grew 16.2 percent to 118.8 trillion won over the year before.

The Bank of Korea [BOK] said it will maintain the M2 growth rate at the 15 percent level this month.

Despite the sharp rise in interest rates in the money market, the central bank shows no signs of loosening its reins on liquidity.

Criticizing banks for their lax loan operations, the central bank indicated that it will not allow banks to extend too much in loans to households.

According to the BOK, banks extended the largest amount of 4.6 trillion won in credit to the private sector during July.

An assistant governor of the BOK said the central bank will hold banks responsible for their possible failures to meet their reserve requirements in the second half.

It is expected that 4-5 banks will be hit by penalty rates by the central bank today for failing to meet the legal reserve requirement.

The BOK Thursday [4 August] released 600 billion won to banks by buying state and public bonds under repurchase agreements (RPs) in a bid to ease the liquidity problems of banks.

But the injection of 600 billion won was not enough to pull down the soaring interest rates in the money market yesterday with overnight inter-bank call rates hovering around 24-25 percent.

The prevailing perception among banks is that interest rates in the money market will not drop drastically even after the banks's legal reserve requirement deadline which falls today.

They say market interest rates will remain at higher levels in the second half given the central bank's commitment to fighting inflation in the second half.

The BOK believes its tightened monetary control will not have much impact on enterprises because they already borrowed enough funds in advance.

It also said market interest rates will begin to drop from next week, because usually there is low fund demand in August.

Economic Recovery Causing Debate Among Economists

SK0608060194 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Aug 94 p 7

[Text] The rapid recovery of Korean economy is causing heated debates among local economists on the proper pace of economic expansion, but the government's policy makers deny that any major policy shift is being considered as of now.

According to the Korea Development Institute (KDI) Tuesday [2 August], the nation's economy was estimated to grow at a swift 9.0 percent in the second quarter of this year, following a 8.8 percent expansion in the first quarter.

The state-financed think tank said that although the nation's economy has yet to enter into an overheated stage, it will do so very soon if left unbridled.

Earlier, the National Statistical Office reported that Korea's industrial output in the first half of the year soared 10.5 percent, marking a double-digit growth after five and a half years of slump, and the capacity utilization ratio of factories also jumped to 82.6 percent, the highest first-half figure since the mid-1980s.

The jobless rate also fell to 2.1 percent, reaching a full employment level and creating a labor crunch in some industries.

Nam Sang-u, a senior KDI fellow, said "The economy may not exactly be said as getting overheated. But given various economic indexes, including industrial production and employment, the present situation requires unusual care and attention."

Economic research institutes attached to large business conglomerates, on the other hand, say that these figures show that the economy has just been set on track for sustained expansion and that it is too early to talk about an austerity policy.

The private economists said the present economic indicators, impressive as they are, are bound to be more exaggerated as they are based on comparison with last year's sluggish performances.

They also note that the current economic expansion is of "sound" nature as it is led by exports and investments, and call for the government to seek "balance amid expansion" rather than returning hastily to belt-tightening steps, thus stifling the hard-won momentum.

On the surface, the government is maintaining its policy keynote featuring "growth amid stability," but appears to be quite alert against any signs of economy's overheatedness and the various adverse spillover effects from it.

Cho Hak-kuk, director of the Economic Planning Board responsible for fine-tuning the economy, said that the government's policy measures on current economy will come after the Bank of Korea officially announces its second quarter economic statistics and it will closely watch the performances of July and August. "In any case, the government will place focus on stabilizing the economy," Cho said.

His remarks reflected on the government's monetary policy in recent months. The government, which originally set this year's money supply growth rate at between 14 percent and 17 percent, has actually operated it at the bottom level of the range in recent months.

Ministry: Agro-Fishery Exports Record Increase

SK0708035894 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Aug 94 p 8

[Text] Korea exported $1,385 million worth of agro-fishery products in the first half of the year, up 12.1 percent from the same period last year, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said yesterday.

Korea's imports of agro-fishery goods increased 13.8 percent to $4,182 million during the cited period for an agro-fishery trade deficit of $2,797 million.

The first-half figure represents a rise of 15.4 percent or $374 million in agro-fishery trade deficits from a year ago and accounts for 78.8 percent of the nation's overall trade shortfall in the January-June period.

However, it is the first time in five years that Korea has seen its first-half exports of agro-fishery products grow, the ministry said.

A growing exports to Japan and local exporters' active participation in international trade fairs boosted overall agro- fishery exports.

Exports of agricultural products increased 22 percent in the first half of the year, but those of livestock and forestry goods decreased 1.8 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively.

Overseas shipments of fishery goods increased 9.7 percent in the cited time.

Imports of agricultural goods rose 13.1 percent and those of livestock, forestry and fishery products also increased 31 percent, 5.6 percent and 39.5 percent, respectively.

Exports to Japan, the nation's largest export market for agro- fishery goods, increased 17.1 percent to $918.3 million.

Shipments of agricultural goods to Japan rose 36 percent in the January-June period from a year ago with the help of a big rise in exports of kimchi, cucumbers and lilies.

Burma

Delegation Leaves for Study Tour of ROK, SRV

BK0808153094 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] A seven-member Myanmar [Burmese] energy delegation led by Energy Minister U Khin Maung Thein left Yangon [Rangoon] International Airport this evening for a 10-day study tour of energy sectors in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Republic of Korea at the invitation of the SRV minister of energy, ROK minister of trade and industry, and vice chairman of the Lucky Gold Star Group in the ROK.

More on Study Tour

BK0808161994 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] At the invitation of (Depine) Industries Company Limited of the Republic of Korea and (Civic) Technology Incorporation of the People's Republic of China, a three-member Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by U Saw Tun, deputy minister of industry-2, left Yangon [Rangoon] International Airport [YIA] for the ROK and PRC at 0715 today. They will be on a three-week study tour of industrial activities to jointly produce motor vehicles and machines in Myanmar.

The delegation was seen off at YIA by U Than Shwe, minister of industry-2; Colonel Tin Hlaing, deputy minister of home affairs; responsible personnel from the departments under the Ministry of Industry-2; diplomats from the ROK and PRC embassies; and friends and family members.

SRV Minister Calls on Fisheries Minister

BK0908060494 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0430 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Mr. Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and his delegation called on Brigadier General Maung Maung, minister for livestock breeding and fisheries, at the minister's office at the Cabinet Building yesterday afternoon.

Frank and cordial discussions were held on the development of coastal fisheries and shrimp breeding, experience in marine products exports, exchange of technology between the two countries, export of cattle, and development of the dairy industry.

Karen Antipersonnel Mine Said To Injure Villager

BK0808152294 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Members of the Karen armed group in the jungle are shooting at people, who are making a peaceful living, for no apparent reason and planting mines on the roads. They are also disturbing and hindering the local peace and tranquility as well as smooth and secure transportation.

U Gar, 33, son of U Tu Zaw of Taungthonlon Village, Tavoy Township, Tenasserim Division, who left the village to sell goods, stepped on an antipersonnel mine planted by a group led by Sit Phu alias Yar Kyaw, platoon leader of the Company-2, Regiment-10 of the jungle-based Karen armed group, about four furlongs from Tahtaungni Village at about 1130 on 24 July.

His right leg was blown off below the knee and the splinters from the mine injured his neck, right hand, left thigh, and left calf.

The responsible personnel gave necessary treatment and sent the victim to Tavoy General Hospital for further treatment.

Students Call for Rangoon, Suu Kyi Talks

BK0908082594 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Aug 94 p 2

[Text] Members of the All Burma Students Democratic Front [ABSDF] have called on the Rangoon government to meet with Aung San Suu Kyi as the people's representative for talks aimed at achieving peace in the country.

The students met yesterday at Daunggwin, a town opposite Mae Sariang district, Mae Hong Son, to commemorate the anniversary of the democratic uprising in Rangoon on August 8, 1988.

More than 1,000 students attended the meeting.

ABSDF president Dr Naing Aung called on everyone there to continue the fight for democracy.

He said the dictatorial rule in Burma would not last long as evidenced by the collapse of dictatorial governments worldwide.

Dr Naing said the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) had denied the results of the 1990 election which saw a landslide victory for the opposition led by Suu Kyi and had then drafted a constitution which allowed it to remain in power.

He said the junta had attempted to mislead the world by staging negotiations with minority groups purportedly aimed at settling conflicts through peaceful means.

The negotiations would be successful only if Suu Kyi, now under house arrest in Rangoon, is allowed to represent the political parties and minority groups in talks with the government, he said.

'Demoralized' Loimaw Insurgents Surrender

BK0908025994 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0130 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Demoralized members of Loimaw opium smuggling group, which has been subjected to various phases of offensives by the Defense Services, have been surrendering en masse. On 6 August morning, six Loimaw group members led by Captain Sai Lian surrendered to Mong Pun garrison in the Eastern Command along with one M-20 pistol, three M-22 assault rifle, one M-79 launcher, one carbine, one bazooka, one walkie-talkie, 679 rounds of assorted ammunition, and 27 projectiles.

The following members surrendered with Sai Lian: Lance Corporal Maung Lo and Privates Sai Mya, Sai Naw, Ludi, and Kyaw U.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Philippine President Arrives for Visit

BK0608145394 Bandar Seri Begawan RTB Sukmaindera Television in English 1304 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Excerpts] His Majesty Paduka Sri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, sultan and Yang Dipertuan [ruler] of Brunei Darussalam, welcomed the president of the Republic of Philippines, His Excellency Mr. Ramos, who arrived in the country for a three-day state visit. The welcoming ceremony took place at the Istana [Palace] Nurul Iman near the capital.

His Excellency was being accompanied by First Lady Mrs. Amelita Ramos, who were greeted upon arrival by his majesty, Her Majesty Paduka Sri Baginda Raja Istri and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Istri.

Before proceeding into the palace for an audience ceremony, the Philippine president inspected a guard of honor mounted by personnel of the First Battalion of the Royal Brunei Land Forces. Mr. and Mrs. Ramos were then introduced to members of the Royal Family. [passage omitted]

An audience ceremony followed at the Balai Perhadapan [audience hall] of the palace before his majesty and his excellency held a closed-door four-eye meeting. This is President Ramos' first state visit to Brunei Darussalam since he came to power in June 1992. [passage omitted]

Addresses State Banquet

BK0708140294 Bandar Seri Begawan RTB Sukmaindera Television in English 1304 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] His Majesty Paduka Sri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, sultan and yang di-pertuan [ruler] of Negara [State of] Brunei Darussalam, has said the East ASEAN Growth Area, EAGA, will open up many new opportunities between the Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, and Malaysia. His Majesty hopes the Philippines and Brunei Darussalam can take advantage of these opportunities in areas related to tourism, telecommunications, airport development, and the proposed transnational airlines. Brunei Darussalam hopes to serve as one of the international gateways into this growth area. His Majesty delivered his speech at a state banquet on the ocassion of the state visit of the president of the Republic of the Philippines, His Excellency Mr. Fidel V. Ramos, and Mrs. Amelita M. Ramos. The ceremony took place last night at Istana [Palace] Nurul Iman.

Earlier, His Majesty said ASEAN has brought Brunei and the Philippines into a structured framework of cooperation in many fields and urged for the quick implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area, AFTA.

[Begin Sultan Bolkiah recording] We are fortunate to be a part of the fastest-growing region in the world, and there are no major upsets to the stability and security of the region. All countries in the region will thrive and prosper. The habits of economic cooperation and competition are growing. Of course, each country has to create its own domestic conditions essential for economic development. Fortunately, economic growth is not a zero-sum game. All countries cooperate and compete when they pursue economic development. The formation of subregional economic groupings shows that there are win-win situations. ASEAN has the southern and northern growth triangles. Now, with Your Excellency's bold initiatives, we have the East ASEAN Growth Area. They will increase regional cohesion and economic growth. If AFTA is realized, the ASEAN Free Trade Area will make Southeast Asia more viable and attractive for trade, investment, and tourism. It is in our interests to ensure that the implementation of AFTA be speeded up. [end recording]

In his reciprocal speech, His Excellency President Fidel Ramos said His Majesty's support of initiatives and programs for the development of both the Philippines and Brunei has been unfailingly consistent and generous. His Excellency added that both countries enhanced their trade and economic cooperation, particularly through the East ASEAN Growth Area. His Excellency also expressed his full gratitude to His Majesty for providing business and employment opportunities to thousands of Filipinos working in Brunei Darussalam.

[Begin Ramos recording] Your Majesty's support of initiatives and programs for the development of both our countries has been unfailingly consistent and generous. [end recording]

Her Majesty Paduka Sri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam were present at the ceremony. Other members of the royal family, cabinet ministers, and foreign diplomats were also present at the function.

Malaysia

Conditions Spelled out for Ties With Israel

BK0508140494 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said Malaysia may establish diplomatic ties relations with Israel if Tel Aviv can prove its sincerity and if it wants peace with Palestinians and other Arab countries. The prime minister was speaking to reporters after he opened the first congress of East Asian youth leaders in Kuala Lumpur today. He said if Arab countries like Jordan can establish diplomatic ties with Israel, Malaysia can do the same.

Replying to reporters' question after he chaired an UMNO [United Malays National Organization] meeting in Kuala Lumpur this evening, the prime minister said the government will make efforts to make al-Arqam [Islamic movement] followers understand that the al-Arqam teachings deviate from the true Islamic tenets. The authorities will also investigate whether the movement has broken any laws.

Israeli Raid 'Will Not Help' Peace Process

BK0908102494 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the Israeli air raid in southern Lebanon will not help peace efforts in West Asia. Malaysia's view is that the Israeli action will not, in any way, help the peace efforts being carried out in the region. He was asked to comment on the Israeli air raid last Thursday which killed 10 people.

Earlier, Datuk Abdullah received about 130,000 ringgit worth of medical supplies from six companies for the medical aid for Palestinians.

On whether Malaysia would consider the possibility of having talks for bilateral cooperation with Israelis following the end of enmity between Jordan and Israel, Datuk Abdullah said there is no move toward such talks so far. Jordan and Israel opened their borders to each other yesterday following the signing of a peace agreement in Washington last month.

On the latest development in Palestine, the foreign minister said Malaysia will continue to assist the PLO Government to develop the Gaza and Jericho regions.

Continued ASEAN Efforts on EAEC Viewed

BK0508131594 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0810 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] One of the outstanding issues featured at the recent ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, AMM, the Post Ministerial Conference, PMC, and the ASEAN Regional Forum, ARF, was the ASEAN-initiated proposal to establish the East Asia Economic Caucus, the EAEC. The Bangkok meeting was the most suitable avenue to promote the idea and convince the still doubtful ones about its objectives and viability.

We hear from the participants, actually, that there is nothing sinister behind its formation, but there were some who were still skeptical about the motive. Ever since endorsement of the EAEC at the 26th AMM in Singapore last year, ASEAN leaders have been [words indistinct], visiting various countries, especially those of the PMC who have doubts about the caucus, so that the questions on its direction and ends would satisfy all.

But [words indistinct] still persists. Last month, the Malaysian international minister of trade and industry, Rafidah Aziz, on a visit to Japan, [words indistinct] efforts to convince the new leadership there about what the East Asia Economic Caucus was meant to be, a new consultative forum for countries of the region to get together and discuss economic problems of mutual concern.

ASEAN proves that the East Asian nations should be able to speak with one voice, when it comes to presenting their views at international meetings on trade and economic mattters. Why should there be any doubt about it at all?

Responding to Rafidah's clarification on the EAEC, the new Japanese foreign minister Yohei Kono, is reported to have said that the U.S. has its own worries about the caucus. So, it is important for ASEAN to clear doubts if there are any.

Japan, along with China and South Korea, are the prospective members of the EAEC. It is important that they be clear about the motives behind the caucus. In Bangkok, ASEAN held lengthy talks with the three leading East Asian countries. In the end, it came to boil down to one thing, convincing them first before going ahead with the formation of the regional grouping. All three agreed that the EAEC had its merits, but wanted more time to propose their own inputs on how the caucus should function. The outcome of the talks was that there should be further consultations before the prospective members could put their signature to the EAEC.

United States Foreign Secretary [title as heard] Warren Christopher is reported to have said recently, when asked to comment on the EAEC, that the U.S. does not see any hostility from the regional grouping, and there should be no problem in endorsing the proposals. ASEAN has persistently maintained that the EAEC will work in continence with the aims of the APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation], and not against it. There should be no fear that the EAEC will act out of context of the APEC forum.

ASEAN will work patiently until Japan, China, and South Korea are fully convinced about the usefulness of the EAEC. The promotion of free trade in the world market is what everyone wants to prove. And the caucus is aimed at doing just that.

Minister Denies Pressuring ASEAN Members

BK0808072194 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0420 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 8 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Malaysian Government has never influenced other

ASEAN governments in their decisions relating to the Al-Arqam movement, Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Sunday. Malaysia has no cooperation with ASEAN member countries to resolve the issue. In fact, we have never contacted other countries, telling them to make decision similar to ours, he said.

He was asked to comment on allegations that Malaysia used its influence to incite ASEAN member countries in resolving the Al-Arqam issue.

Malaysia on last Friday banned the movement for its deviationist teachings while Brunei made the ban in 1991.

Thailand had refused to renew Ashaari's visa, forcing him to leave Chiengmai where he had been staying since 1988 while Singapore recently denied him entry on security grounds.

Abdullah said the ban on Al-Arqam by the National Fatwa Council (Islamic religious ruling council) was based on evidence that the movement had deviated from the teachings of Islam.

He said actions taken by other ASEAN countries like Brunei and Indonesia were based on the results of their own investigations.

On Ashaari's presence in Jordan, Abdullah said Wisma Putra (Foreign Ministry) had yet to be officially informed on the matter.

Government Not To Contact Al-Arqam Leader

BK0508150194 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Aug 94 p 2

[Report by Saiful Azhar Abdullah]

[Text] Langkawi, Wed—The government will not contact Al- Arqam leader Ashaari Mohamed, who left Thailand for Jordan last night, as it has not reason to do so, Deputy Minister in Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr. Abdul Hamid Othman said today.

"We have never considered him a fugitive or a criminal. All we want to do is to correct him and return him to the right path, " he said in reply to a question asking if the government would be in contact with Ashaari in Jordan.

According to the Thai Interior Ministry, Ashaari boarded an aircraft in Bangkok for Jordan last night with 40 followers, including students and certain well known figures in Jordan.

Jordan is among the countries where the Al-Arqam leader has followers. The others are Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Abdul Hamid, who was here to attend the fifth unofficial ASEAN Ministers of Religious Affairs meeting (Mabims), said Ashaari could only stay in Jordan for two weeks without a visa.

"According to Jordanian immigration rules, he will have to apply for a visa after the two week period."

Asked how Ashaari could spread his influence to other countries like Jordan, Abdul Hamid said he introduced his organisation as a religious movement to seek sympathy.

"He will show them pictures of him with the king and our prime minister and they gave him some alms," he added.

Meanwhile, Indonesian Affairs Minister Dr. Tarmizi Taher told reporters that the Indonesian Government was considering banning Al-Alqam.

"Our government is seriously considering banning the movement after we receive a report from our Religious Affairs Council on the influence of the organization," he added.

Tarmizi said the Al-Arqam was active in Aceh, Western Sumatera and Riau.

He denied Al-Arqam's claims that the Indonesian Government sympathised with the movement.

Tarmizi also denied the organisation's claim of having a university in Indonesia.

He said the Indonesian Government had banned Ashaari from entering the country besides the ban on several of his books.

Tarmizi said the Indonesian Government was very unhappy with Ashaari for using pictures of their leaders to gain influence.

"He is indirectly involved in politics by using pictures of our leaders to gain influence and sympathy," he added.

Brunei Religious Affairs Minister Dr. Awang Mohamed Zain said Brunei had banned the Al-Arqam organisation since 1991.

"We found that the organisation was a threat to the nation's security and its teaching contained negative elements that would undermine the interest of Islam," he added.

Minister Supports WHO Motion To Outlaw Arms

BK0908084794 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Aug 94 p 6

[Text] Petaling Jaya, Fri.—Malaysia will soon join other countries to fight against the use of nuclear weapons.

Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said today the Government had agreed in principle to give its support to the World Health Organsation's motion at the International Court of Justice to outlaw the use of nuclear arms.

The Hague-based International Court, which is the venue to settle disputes and queries by United Nations members, has given Governments until Sept 20 this year to submit their decisions on nuclear arms.

To date, countries which have already given their blessings to declare the use of nuclear weapons illegal include Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, North Korea, Sweden, Papua New Guinea and Ukraine.

Countries with nuclear stockpiles, namely the United States, United Kingdom, France and Russia have opposed WHO's move, saying that the International Court has no jurisdiction on the matter.

"Malaysia has always maintained a firm stand on the issue of nuclear arms. We are all for a total abolition of them and the banning of nuclear testing," he told reporters after opening the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War's (IPPNW) fourth Asia Pacific regional conference at PJ [Petaling Jaya] Hilton here.

Themed, "A Prescription for Global Health and Security", the three-day conference is organised by the Malaysian Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

Its chairman, Datuk Dr R.S. McCoy and IPPNW co-presidents Professor Dr Victor Sidel and Dr Sergei Kolesnikov and Malaysia Medical Association president Dr Chew Peng Hong were also present.

In his speech, Dr Fadzil critised the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), saying that, "it is inherently discriminatory and flawed."

He said it was wrought with double standard which ultimately served only the interest of countries armed with nuclear weapons, while denying the Third World countries from developing nuclear technology for non-military purposes.

"It endows the nuclear states with the right to research, produce, test and process nuclear weapons. These states are also given the implicit right to use them against other nations.

"On the other hand, the Third World countries are forbidden to develop or process nuclear weapons."

Given such scenario, he said the 1995 conference to review NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation] would be of great significance.

But Dr Fadzil admitted that negotiations on the extension of the treaty would be a complicated one because of the many issues involved.

"Many of the Third World countries are not satisfied with the political bargain upon which the NPT was based. That is, peaceful nuclear technology in exchange for a pledge not to acquire nuclear arms.

"While the vast majority of the non-nuclear states have kept this pledge, the five nuclear powers (US, UK, France, Russia and China) have broken theirs to work towards universal nuclear disarment."

Dr Fadzil also said there was an urgent need to ban the production of plutonium and other fissile materials in the wake of their potential risks and abuse.

To date, there are a total of 135 tonnes of plutonium reprocessed from spent fuel and by the year 2010, it is expected to surge to 550 tonnes.

The dismantling of some 27,000 American and ex-Soviet nuclear weapons in the 1990s is expected to produce another 90 tonnes of plutonium.

Move To Expand Islamic Banking Discussed

BK0808122894 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Aug 94 p 7

[Text] Shah Alam, Fri.—The Government's move to expand the Islamic banking system will become a success because the people have accepted it.

This includes support from non-Muslims for the interest-free banking system, Finance Ministry parliamentary secretary Datuk Dr Affifuddin Omar said today.

He said the Government' efforts to expand the Islamic banking system in the country was not a window dressing as claimed by critics, but a tangible long-term move to make the system an accepted way of banking among Malaysians.

Speaking to reporters after opening an international symposium on dynamic Islamic graduands for the ASEAN region here today, Affifuddin said the Government would continue to improve the Islamic banking model which was not solely based on maximising profit but a balance of gaining profit and providing help to the public.

Many countries, including Sudan, Kuwait, Pakistan and the Islamic Development Bank have shown great interest in the country's Islamic banking model and had acknowledged it as one of the best.

However, Affifudin said the Government had no plan to introduce a law to make it compulsory for commercial banks to introduce the Islamic banking system as an alternative for their clients.

The Government did not have to resort to such a move and abolish the interest-based conventional banking system because it would be counter-productive.

* UMNO Official Reports More Members

94SE0164B Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 6 Jun 94 p 17

[Text] Batu Pahat, 5 Jun—UMNO [United Malays National Organization] has been able to increase membership by 4 percent, or 84,000 people, through a drive started more than two months ago, said UMNO Secretary-General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat.

He said the drive to find new members will be continued in order to enhance party strength.

He is disappointed, however, that only 35 percent, or 735,000 people, of the 2.1 million UMNO members throughout the country have registered to vote.

He said the figure is very unacceptable because UMNO is the pillar of the National Front (BN) government and must be an example to other parties.

"I am amazed that most UMNO members have yet to register to vote," he said here today after inaugurating a one-day course sponsored by UMNO's Batu Pahat Division.

He said this as a comment on the statement made last night by Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak, who doubles as chairman of UMNO Membership Increase in Johor Baharu, that the number of UMNO members registered to vote is still low.

Najib said that according to the voter list issued by the Elections Commission last year, there were 388,466 UMNO members eligible to vote who had not registered.

* Opposition Faces Big Challenge in Election

94SE0164A Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 6 Jun 94 p 3

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 5 Jun—Another opposition party, the Malaysian People's Party (PRM), has acknowledged that all opposition parties will face "bigger problems" in the next general election than in the 1990 election.

PRM President Dr. Syed Hussin Ali said that this prediction is based on encouraging national economic developments, the charismatic qualities of National Front (BN) leaders, and the evident effectiveness of the political strategies of some BN leaders.

Earlier, the DAP [Democratic Action Party] admitted that not one chair the party holds in Parliament or state legislatures is considered safe in this election.

Dr. Syed Hussin said, "Many people are carried away by dreams of becoming rich through buying stocks and hope the price of stocks will again shoot up as the election approaches.

"Because materialistic values are now spreading, individuals think only of their own happiness and do not want to take the people's problems seriously."

He said this as he delivered a policy speech and political report to the 27th National Congress of the PRM, which was held in closed session here today.

The text of his speech was issued at the conference hall of a local hotel, but Dr. Syed Hussin declined to make any comment prior to the press conference to be held tomorrow.

The former member of the academic community said that there are signs that the general election will be held some time between July and the end of the year and that many people expect it to be held in September.

Because of this pressing situation, he hoped that all parties in the People's Concept and the Islamic Unity Movement will complete all their talks so that "we can face the election with unity, or at least with a strong and effective understanding."

He also acknowledged that some of the actions and speeches by top BN leaders are beginning to win the hearts of the people, for example through their boldness in criticizing the big powers and their continued efforts to uphold the rights of the Islamic people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

He also said that the government's promises to fight for the future of Chinese schools and the Chinese language have caused many non-Malay voters to lean toward voting for the BN in the next election.

He added that this pressing situation should motivate the PRM to plan more organized action, move more energetically, and establish unity.

* Plans for Trade, Ties With Tunisia

94SE0159B Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 27 May 94 p 6

[Text] Before the end of this year, Tunisia is scheduled to sign three economic cooperation agreements with Malaysia involving efforts toward duty reduction, investment guarantees, and air service.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said that Tunisia is also expected soon to sign several memoranda of understanding (MOU's) with Malaysian companies and trade councils.

"Tunisia, through a trade delegation that arrived yesterday under the leadership of Prime Minister Dr. Hamed Karoui, yesterday signed a bilateral agreement on economic and technical cooperation," he said.

Abdullah said that Tunisia has also agreed in principle to expand cooperation in science, technology, research and development, and education.

He said that Malaysia and Tunisia are also planning to open diplomatic offices in their respective capitals and that, in line with that, the Malaysian Foreign Trade Development Board (MARTRADE) will soon open an office in that country.

He said this yesterday at a luncheon meeting held by the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM) to welcome the Tunisian trade delegation to Kuala Lumpur.

Among those representing the Tunisian delegation at the meeting was Minister of Planning and Regional Development Mustapha Kamel Nabli. They plan to be in Malaysia for four days beginning 25 May.

Mustapha, who represented Dr. Hamed, said that Tunisia encourages Malaysian businessmen to make investments and increase economic cooperation because of the extensive markets with potential in his country.

He said that trade between Malaysia and Tunisia amounted to 16.47 million ringgit last year, while Malaysian imports totaled 12.49 million ringgit.

* Industry Minister Urges More R & D

94SE0159A Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 28 May 94 p 8

[Text] The level of research and development (R & D) conducted for the industrial sector in this country is still too low when compared with other countries, despite the fact that the government provides a variety of incentives.

Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz said that industry should seize the opportunity of incentives provided by the government to invest in R & D, especially in the development and renewal of products.

She said the government provides three categories of incentives for R & D. Companies that conduct R & D on a contract basis are given pioneer status for five years or an investment tax allowance on 100 percent of capital expenditures for 10 years, and those that provide R & D to groups of their companies are given an investment tax allowance for 10 years.

"At the same time, companies that conduct internal R & D are also given an investment tax allowance on 50 percent of capital expenditures," she told a meeting held for the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on radiation vulcanization of natural rubber latex (RVNRL) between the Nuclear Energy Unit (UTN) and the Guthrie Group Bhd. (Guthrie) in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

The UTN was represented by its director, Dr. Ahmad Sobri Hashim, while Datuk Abdul Khalid Ibrahim, chairman of Guthrie's Executive Committee, represented his company.

Rafidah said that the rubber products industry in this country, especially rubber glove manufacturers, still do not have research facilities or employees skilled in R & D.

For that reason, she praised Guthrie's action in joining with the UTN to conduct research in RVNRL.

"Because future domestic and international markets will be more open and will encourage more competition without protections, the competitiveness of Malaysian products will greatly depend on continuous R & D efforts," she said.

Rafidah said that R & D in this country is still encouraged and initiated by the government through the provision of allocations and facilities so that the private sector can obtain R & D services from certain groups. Therefore, she said, the government is trying to improve approaches now in use and to monitor and improve procedures for channeling aid and support to R & D so that they will be more effective.

She said that in 1993 under the Intensification of Research in Priority Areas (IRPA) program, the government approved 120.6 million ringgit for 726 research projects, and for the Fifth and Sixth Malaysia Plans about 241 R & D projects were identified as having potential for becoming commercial projects.

Singapore

Prime Minister Delivers National Day Message

BK0808145794 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, says Singapore is doing well this year. Growth for the first half was 10.5 percent and economic growth for the whole year is expected to be between nine and 10 percent. Despite the introduction of the GST, consumer prices have been stable.

In his national day message, Mr. Goh Chok Tong said the challenge is to get the younger generation to prepare to prepare to take charge of Singapore in the 21st century. He said there is a need for another 10 to 15 men and women, now in their 30s and 40s, to set new goals and overcome new challenges. They will have to plan and create opportunities for all Singaporeans—the rich, the middle income and the low income. Mr. Goh said honest, able and committed leaders is the most important factor in deciding Singapore's future.

Mr. Goh said the government has delivered on promises made in 1984 to make Singapore a city of excellence and a society of distinction. Real wages, housing, education and health care, public transport and leisure facilities have all improved. But more important than material achievement, Mr. Goh said are efforts to look after those who find it difficult to keep up. Self-help programs have assisted low income families to break the vicious cycle of poverty.

Mr. Goh noted that while Singapore will reach developed country levels of per capita income in six to 10 years time, it does not mean we will no longer have problems. Instead, there will be different ones—those of over-indulgence and materialism, subsidies and welfare.

The prime minister said Singaporeans must not think that wealth and money can solve all social problems. They must learn from the mistakes of developed nations. Mr. Goh said the basic virtues that society, however high-tech, still needs strong moral values, discipline and proper family upbringing. Future leaders will need a selfless spirit and be able to unite Singaporeans to work together to make tomorrow's Singapore better thaun today's.

Entry of Al-Arqam Leader Still Banned

BK0408151094 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Singapore will continue to ban Al-Arqam [Islamic movement] leader Ashaari Muhammad from entering Singapore. The government will also monitor the activities of his followers here.

Minister in charge of Muslim Affairs Abdullah Tarmugi said this on his return from a two-day meeting in Langkawi attended by officials from Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Thailand, and the Philippines. Mr. Abdullah, who is also acting community development minister, said even though there is no consensus at the meeting to ban the movement, Singapore will not jeopardize Malaysia's concern. Malaysia (?brands) the movement as endangering its national security. Indonesia and Brunei have also agreed to ban Ashaari Muhammad from entering their shore.

Accord To Launch Mobile System Signed

BK0508122194 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Four companies from Singapore, Indonesia, and America have signed a memorandum of understanding to launch a regional mobile satellite system. The system will enable countries to use satellite facilities for communications without having to lay expensive cable network. Called the Asia Mobile Telecommunications, or AMT, the project aims to reach 3 billion people in Asia.

The signing ceremony in Indonesia was witnessed by Minister for Communication and Environment Mah Bow Tan. Mr. Mah said Indonesia's experience in satellite communications, Singapore's management and financial expertise, and America's experience in building and operating satellite system make this joint venture a strong combination.

The companies taking part are Singapore Telecom, Singapore Technology Ventures, Pacific Satellite Nusantara, and Hughes Communications.

Cambodia

PRC Donates $150,000 for Rural Development

BK0808153994 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] On the afternoon of 3 August at the PRC Embassy in Cambodia, an agreement was signed by representatives of the Chinese Embassy and the Defense Ministry of the Kingdom of Cambodia to receive $150,000 in aid donated by the Chinese Government to the Ministry for Rural Development.

On the occasion, Mrs. (Tek Wue), PRC ambassador to Cambodia, thanked the Defense Ministry for its efforts to safeguard the Chinese Embassy. She also highlighted the time-honored good relations of solidarity between China and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

His Excellency Tie Banh, co-minister of national defense, profoundly thanked the Chinese Government and people for the aid to the Khmer Royal Armed Forces, which is in need of everything to rebuild its strength after the formation of the Royal Government of Cambodia through the UN-sponsored elections.

Shanghai Company To Operate Battambang Factory

BK0708123294 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 7 Aug 94 p 4

[Text] The Ministry of Industry, Mines, and Energy recently disclosed that a Shanghai investment company will rent the Don Teav jute sack factory in Battambang Province. The company will restore the factory and make it capable of producing 9,000,000 jute sacks annually.

The same source adds that the Shanghai company plans to repair the factory in three phases. At the beginning, it will repair the mechanical structure, enabling production of 5,000,000 sacks per year. In the second phase, there will be additional repairs and new machines installed so as to boost annual production to 9,000,000 sacks. In the last phase, the company will transform Battambang Province into a center for raw jute production to supply the factory.

This company will turn areas around the factory and other places into jute production regions. It will provide incentive by buying jute from local people with negotiated prices.

It further reported that the company plans to develop and transform Battambang Province into a jute production region by encouraging local people to produce a sufficient quantity of jute, first to serve the needs of the factory and second for export. The company also intends to export jute sacks if a surplus develops.

The source further says that the company is agreeing to employ the present 700 staff and workers.

It is worth recalling that the Don Teav jute sack factory in Battambang Province was built in the 1960's. After 1979, it was seriously damaged by the Khmer Rouge shortly before it pulled out out the province. The factory was made operative again by the remaining workers and leaders between 1980 and 1981. At the beginning, it earned many millions of riels for the state. Nevertheless, in recent years the machines became increasingly obsolete and dilapidated, sharply reducing production. Recently the factory was producing only 1,000,000 sacks per year. In 1994, sales were also hampered by the arrival of imported sacks.

Ranariddh: 'One or Two' Thais To Be Released

BK0708145694 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 7 Aug 94

[From the "Weekly Salient News Roundup"]

[Text] This week, Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC], presided over the inauguration of an irrigation canal and a stretch of track in Trapeang Tea village, Pong Toek commune, Dangkao District, Phnom Penh City.

Speaking on the occasion, the prince said that the construction is important for restoring the agricultural structure in the process of developing and rehabilitating the national economy. He called on local peasants to pay attention to maintaining the canal and track because they are very important in the production work to promote the national economy.

Moreover, First Prime Minister Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh said that Cambodian authorities would release one or two Thais among the 14 detained Thais charged with attempting to stage a coup d'etat recently. The prince added that Thai authorities should facilitate the extradition to Cambodia of two Thai nationals accused of being leaders of the detained group who have escaped to Thailand.

Khmer Rouge Demand 1 Million Dollars

BK0808133594 Hong Kong AFP in English 1142 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, Aug 8 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge guerrillas have demanded one million US dollars from the government and its Western allies in reparation for a recent offensive against their bases in southern Cambodia.

"This (offensive) resulted from the alliance of the United States, France and Australia and they have to take full responsibility and a fine of one million US dollars must be paid," a letter, seen by AFP Monday, from a Khmer Rouge commander in southern Kampot Province said.

The letter was handed over to local television company, Indochine Productions, Sunday by Khmer Rouge Commander Rin near Phnom Vour where the guerrillas are holding three Western tourists hostage. The Khmer Rouge commander requested that the letter be passed on to co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

The guerrillas seized Australian David Wilson, 29, Briton Mark Slater, 28 and Frenchman Jean-Michel Braquet, 26, in a train ambush near the guerrillas jungle base at Phnom Vour some 130 kilometers (81 miles) south of the capital July 26.

The letter, however, made no reference to the hostages, nor did it say the million dollars was a new ransom demand.

The guerrillas had earlier asked for a ransom of 50,000 dollars in gold for the release of each hostage.

Indochine director Ed Fitzgerald said that Khmer Rouge Commander Rin had told his news company the three would be released "immediately" after the ransom in gold was paid.

In the letter the commander said the Khmer Rouge's base came under ground and artillery attack and that a government helicopter had also bombed it three times in late May.

Several people were killed and injured and houses and crops were damaged, he said.

The letter was signed off "Phnom Vour, commander of the armed forces of the provisional national salvation government." [passage omitted on formation of Khmer Rouge provisional government, kidnap and release of aid worker Melissa Himes]

The Khmer Rouge's clandestine radio has repeatedly lashed out at the US, France and Australia for providing military assistance to Phnom Penh.

The rebel radio has warned the three countries that they would face the same fate as the US did in Vietnam.

Further on Accusation Regarding Train Attacks

BK0808152594 Hong Kong AFP in English 1033 GMT 8 Aug 94

[By Kevin Barrington]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug 8 (AFP)—The Cambodian Government Monday accused local officials of conspiring with Khmer Rouge guerrillas who last month ambushed a train in southern Cambodia, killing 13 people and taking three Western tourists hostage.

"The train hold-ups have been the result of an illegal conspiracy between certain officials at Kompong Trach and the Khmer Rouge, under which they have connived to stage the hold-ups and share the freight and other property stolen," according to a statement from Tourism Minister Veng Sereivut.

"The government is not prepared to tolerate this illegal activity any longer. We are now taking the necessary steps to ensure that this type of incident does not happen again," the statement said.

A senior government official told AFP that "work has been done in replacing corrupt local authorities by clean ones," but he declined to give details on any possible arrests.

Interior Minister Yu Hokkri said the army was also in the process of substantially reinforcing troop strength in the Kompong Trach district of southern Kampot province.

The July 26 ambush, in which the guerrillas killed 13 people and kidnapped a group of passengers, including the three foreigners, was the latest in a series of attacks on the train running from the capital to the southern port and resort town of Sihanoukville.

"They held the train up four times in 1993 and this is the fourth time they have done so this year—always at the same place, a five-kilometer (three-mile) stretch of track at Kompong Trach district," the statement said.

Kompong Trach is situated in a remote area near the Vietnam border about 130 kilometers (81 miles) south of the capital and some 100 kilometers (62 miles) east of Sihanoukville.

Operating from jungle hide-outs in densely forested hills, the Khmer Rouge have been active in Kampot province since the [word indistinct].

"Although we have been progressively cleaning them out, a pocket of not more than 200 have remained to cause us problems," the statement said.

Negotiations are currently underway to secure the release of the three Western hostages, Australian David Wilson, 29, Briton Mark Slater, 28, and Frenchman Jean-Michel Braquet, 26.

"The government's priority is for the release of the three foreigners as soon as possible," a government spokesman said, who declined to give any details on negotiations.

The authorities, however, would try to secure the trio's release "in the near future because the government is keen to have a good image for Cambodia," he said.

The guerrillas have asked for some 50,000 US dollars in gold for the release of each hostage.

Officials Accused of Aiding KR

BK0808133794 Hong Kong AFP in English 0953 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug 8 (AFP)—The Cambodian Government Monday accused local officials of conspiring with Khmer Rouge [KR] guerrillas who recently ambushed a train in southern Cambodia, killing 13 people and taking three Western tourists hostage.

"The train hold-ups have been the result of an illegal conspiracy between certain officials at Kompong Trach and the Khmer Rouge, under which they have connived to stage the hold-ups and share the freight and other property stolen," according to a statement from Minister of Tourism Veng Sereivut.

"The government is not prepared to tolerate this illegal activity any longer. We are now taking the necessary steps to ensure that this type of incident does not happen again," the statement said.

A senior government official told AFP that "work has been done in replacing corrupt local authorities by clean ones," but he declined to give details on any possible arrests.

PGNUNS Ministry Calls for Cooperation

BK0608124394 (Clandestine) Radio of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation of Cambodia in Cambodian 1200 GMT 5 Aug 94

["Statement by the Ministry of Rural Areas, Agriculture, and Water of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation [PGNUNS] on the Situation in Rural Areas and in the Agricultural Sector and on the Policy of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation Concerning the Rural Areas and the Agricultural Sector, Which Have Suffered Great Destruction Due to the War of Aggression of Communist Vietnam and the Two-headed Government"; dated 4 August—read by announcer]

[Text] At the directive of the Cabinet, the Ministry of Rural Areas, Agriculture, and Water of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation [PGNUNS] would like to make the following statement on rural areas and agriculture, and also on the measures, which are the policies of the PGNUNS, for the entire nation, people, and peasants to combine forces with the PGNUNS to solve various problems.

I. Concerning the situation in rural areas and in the agriculture sector:

1. The communist Vietnamese aggressors' war between 1978 and 1994 has caused great destruction, suffering, and hardship to rural areas, people, and peasants. In general, peasants have lost all their land, rice fields, rivers, lakes, streams, and forest because of the communist Vietnamese' war of aggression and because of the influx of 4 million Vietnamese into Cambodia to expropriate everything in the provinces, districts, communes, and villages, on the plains, along rivers and lakes, in the hilly and forest regions, on plateaus, along the coast, and on islands. Peasants have lost their land and rice fields, water, rivers, lakes, and forest. This means they have lost all means of production, their primary source of earning a living. The lives of the peasants are tied to water and land. Deprived of water and land, peasants will drift aimlessly.

2. The production tools of the peasants in the form of cattle, plows, rakes, carts, and so on have also been completely destroyed by the communist Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets to prevent peasants from working the land and earning a living.

3. The peasants have managed to extract some produce such as paddy, rice, bean, corn, and sesame, from the land. This produce has been plundered and destroyed by the communist Vietnamese aggressors, who have even destroyed crops planted around houses and the fish paste and fermented fish that peasants need in their daily life.

4. Hundreds of thousands and millions of peasants have perished, been separated, or disabled. They have repeatedly been rounded up to serve as soldiers in the fighting. They have died in the jungles and on the plains, in the dry and rainy seasons, one season after another, one year after another. It has been 15 years now and this is still going on.

The K-5 plan of the communist Vietnamese and their puppets involved rounding up the people and peasants to build military structures along the border, search for mines, lay mines, dig trenches and canals, and build barbed wire fences along the western border and in the jungles. Great numbers of people died of hunger, malaria, and high fever throughout the jungles. It was very fascist and barbarous, worse than during the Second World War.

5. Now the two-headed government, as a fascist tool of the communist Vietnamese and the bad allies, continues to frantically recruit soldiers and militiamen. It uses weapons and troops to round up peasants in villages, rice fields, along rivers, on the plains, and in the jungle. People are treated like animals. When the people flee, they are fired upon. Their wives have been raped, mistreated, arrested, and jailed; money has been extorted. The peasants who have been drafted have been sent to invade and destroy villages and kill farmers. When going into battle, the peasants have been forced to go first to search for mines. The peasants have escaped home but have been followed and killed in their homes.

However, our peasants have a valiant and very courageous history and tradition of fighting. The peasants' struggle along with our entire nation and people since 1979 has been creating panic among the two-headed government in every sector. In particular, the two-headed government lacks fighting forces and fighting spirit. Following its consecutive setbacks at Anlung Veng and Pailin, the two-headed government soldiers, both from the communist Vietnamese puppet's side and from the U.S. puppet's side, are suddenly weakening; they are quickly losing their capacity to fight.

This is why the two-headed government is making efforts to draft soldiers and militiamen among the peasantry to continue fueling communist Vietnam's war. The Franco-American-Australian alliance has made efforts to provide military aid and military personnel to the two-headed government so as to win a place to suck dry the Cambodian nation and people.

6. Along with the military war that the communist Vietnamese, their puppets, the two-headed government, and the alliance are fueling to barbarously kill the Cambodian nation and people, communist Vietnam has intensified efforts to send Vietnamese nationals to Cambodia to rob and annex the land, rice fields, lakes, rivers, and forests of the Cambodian nation and people, and to take over jobs in rural areas and markets at will. First, the peasants are short of food and go hungry. They are forced to move from one place to another and from rural areas to Phnom Penh. They are uprooted from their land and rice fields to live in destitution in a corrupt society with all kinds of vices.

This is a criminal act to finish off the Cambodian race by the communist Vietnamese; their puppets; UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]; the alliance; the Para troops, puppets of the United States; and the traitorous and very corrupt two-headed government.

II. Some basic policies of the PGNUNS' Ministry of Rural Areas, Agriculture, and Water:

Faced with such a serious situation, the PGNUNS' Ministry of Rural Areas, Agriculture, and Water would like to put forward a number of preliminary policies of the PGNUNS to the entire nation and people and to the peasantry so that our nation and people and the PGNUNS can work together to gradually solve various problems now and in the future.

1. As a government that loves the nation and people, that in all its struggles has its roots among the nation and people, and that is set up to rally increasingly strong and powerful national forces in order to struggle and achieve national reconciliation, national union, peace, and to solve and end the communist Vietnamese war of aggression and the issue of 4 million Vietnamese, the PGNUNS is absolutely with our entire nation and people, particularly with the peasants. It constantly lives and works with peasants in rural areas.

Now, as in the past and for the future, the PGNUNS firmly believes in the forces of our entire nation and people and in the strength of the peasants. It will strive to protect the peasants, rural areas, villages, land, and rice fields so that the peasants have something from which to earn a living and survive. Even during the war, peasants have to be able to live in order to wage a political, military, and economic struggle and wage a guerrilla and people's war. The PGNUNS, like Democratic Kampuchea in the past, will not waver from this stance. It is tied to the peasants and our entire nation and people. As with any nationalist resistance fighter, the salvation of the nation is a matter of life or death for the PGNUNS.

2. The peasants continue to struggle by themselves in the guerrilla and people's war throughout the nation. The rural area contains a force of peasants 7 million strong. It is a mighty fighting force for waging a political, military, and economic struggle by all possible means. It will fight to cut off the transport routes of the two-headed government, to defend the territory and villages, and to completely prevent the two-headed government; the puppet of communist Vietnam; and the Para troops, puppets of the United States from rounding up the peasants' relatives to serve as soldiers and militiamen. It will fight to defend foodstuffs, hide rice and paddy, and completely prevent them from being seized by the two-headed government.

In the past our peasants persistently struggled with lofty heroism. They took part in carrying out activities with Democratic Kampuchea, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, and the entire Cambodian nation and people. Rural areas worked with Phnom Penh, and people inside the country worked with those abroad.

This is what the communist Vietnamese aggressors are afraid of. They have been unable to annex Cambodia. They have been bogged down in the ocean of the guerrilla and people's war of the Cambodian people and Cambodian peasants.

Look at January 1979. The communist Vietnamese insolently hollered out that they had annexed Cambodia.

They said Cambodia was finished and that the situation was irreversible. However, through the struggle of Democratic Kampuchea, and all the strata of the Cambodian nation and people in and outside the country, particularly the peasants in rural areas who were right on the battlefield, forces were rallied. They fought courageously with correct strategies and tactics. The Cambodia which the communist Vietnamese announced in 1979 that they had already swallowed became an iron pin stuck through the neck of the communist Vietnamese and that of communist Vietnam's puppets. It prevented Cambodia from being annexed. It sapped and drained the fighting forces, the economy, and thousands of millions of dollars of the communist Vietnamese and their puppets. They were faced with social crises and were very isolated in the international arena.

In sum, the entire national forces were fighting in rural areas and in the cities, in the country and outside. The forces of the nation and the people worked together and fought. They were mighty forces and very powerful; no enemies could oppose, destroy, or disperse them.

In the future, our people will unite in greater numbers and will fight more vigorously, particularly during this stage, to prevent the two-headed government and the bad allies from rounding up the peasants to serve as soldiers and militiamen during this rainy season and this coming dry season, and later on. This is to prevent the two-headed government from having fighting troops to continue the communist Vietnam's war. This way the two-headed government will dry up and our nation and people will be able to quickly end the war. Our nation and people will certainly have a genuine national government, with national forces of all tendencies taking part in it to solve national problems. Cambodia will have peace and security. Rural areas and cities will be peaceful. All our people from all social strata, peasants and town people, will have opportunities to peacefully earn their living.

[Dated] 5 August 1994

[Signed] PGNUNS Minister of Rural Areas, Agriculture, and Water

Mak Ben

Cabinet Meeting Describes Enemy's Predicament

BK0908025694 (Clandestine) Radio of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation of Cambodia in Cambodian 1200 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Press communique of the Office of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation dated 8 August; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] I. On Monday, 8 August 1994, the cabinet of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation [PGNUNS] held its weekly meeting under the chairmanship of His Excellency Khieu Samphan, prime minister and minister of the national army, and with the participation of all cabinet members.

II. The cabinet heard the reports presented by each ministry and thoroughly examined and discussed all aspects of the situation in the country and the international situation concerning the national salvation strugggle of our Cambodian nation and people.

III. The cabinet clearly noted that in continuing to ignite their aggressive war against Cambodia, communist Vietnam, the Western alliance of villains, and the two-headed government have found themselves at an impasse and are seriously bogged down in all fields.

In the political field, the two-headed government is being opposed and rejected by the entire Cambodian nation and people in the countryside, in Phnom Penh, and abroad. Our nation and people clearly see that the two-headed government is the fascist, right-hand instrument of communist Vietnam and the Western alliance of villains. It is an antinational instrument that has sold out the Cambodian nation and massacred the Cambodian people. Moreover, there is an acute internal conflict and division within this government that has caused its forces to seriously scatter and collapse.

In the economic and financial field, the two-headed government can barely make ends meet and does so thanks only to the alms that it is soliciting from other countries left and right. It has no economy nor production. It does not even have rice to eat, nor does it have money to feed its functionaries, both civil servants and military servicemen.

So, the two-headed government is at an acute state of impasse. The coup d'etat staged by communist Vietnam and its puppets at the beginning of July to banish the king and the fascist law that they are currently implementing to incarcerate and assassinate innocent people have more clearly revealed to the international community that not only is this two-headed government nothing but an empty shell, but it is communist Vietnam and its puppets who call the shots. This government stinks both at home and on the international stage. As for the scheme designed by the Western alliance of villains, including the United States, France, and Australia, to provide arms for the two-headed government to escalate the aggressive war of communist Vietnam, it is being ignominiously exposed and opposed by countries and peoples in the region.

In the military field, the armed forces of the two-headed government, including the forces of the communist Vietnamese puppets and the para [noncommunist resistance forces] of the U.S. puppets, are being scattered to the maximum extent and gradually begin to fall apart section by section, chunk by chunk. Moreover, they have failed to conscript new soldiers and militiamen to fill gaps in their forces. As for the few brothers who have been conscripted through the fascist act of hamlet roundups and at gunpoint, they are deserting one after another. This government is short of soldiers everywhere; it fails to conscript more wherever it tries; and it does not have enough soldiers to fight on every front.

The situation of the two-headed government as described above clearly proves that this government is collapsing in all sectors and domains, and it has no solution to that predicament.

IV. In the face of this situation of the two-headed government in which it is plunging to the bottom and finds itself cornered in all fields, the cabinet took a number of measures as a strategic objective aimed at gradually shortening the duration of communist Vietnam's aggressive war. These measures are especially aimed at preventing communist Vietnam, the alliance of villains, and the two-headed government from conscripting new soldiers, thus depriving them of soldiers with which to fight.

V. The cabinet noted that each ministry has implemented all cabinet resolutions with a high sense of responsibility and is continuing to carry them out together with our nation and people, further enhancing the advantage of the national salvation struggle of our Cambodian nation and people in all sectors and fields to quickly end the aggressive war of communist Vietnam and its puppets. The cabinet advised the committees of all provinces, districts, communes, and villages throughout the country to pay attention to working even more closely and actively with the rest of our people, especially with the peasants in the countryside, to be thoroughly imbued with the situation, measures, and political objectives, such as the significance of the 2 August 1994 appeal by His Excellency Khieu Samphan, prime minister and minister of the national army of the PGNUNS and particularly the true situation of the two-headed government, which is collapsing politically, has no economy, no food, and especially no soldiers for combat. All of this is done so that our nation and people, especially the peasants, become more united and resolute in rising up against the two-headed government's campaign to conscript soldiers and militiamen, preventing it from obtaining soldiers to fight and thereby quickly ending the aggressive war of communist Vietnam so that we can quickly achieve national reconciliation, national unity, and peace in Cambodia.

8 August 1994

[signed] the office of the cabinet of the PGNUNS

Rangsi Discusses Changes to Investment Law

BK0808113994 Phnom Penh The CAMBODIA DAILY in English 4 Aug 94 p 6

[Report by Barton Biggs]

[Text] Last minute changes to the Foreign Investment law—currently being debated on the floor of the National Assembly—will exclude natural resource industries from reaping the benefits of what is seen to be an extremely attractive nine percent corporate income tax rate, Minister of Finance and Economics Sam Rangsi confirmed by telephone last night.

The first 13 articles of the National Investment Law were passed in a special session of the National Assembly yesterday with the only major change being to distinguish natural resource industries—which include highly profitable logging and mining operations as well as petroleum and natural gas exploration and extraction—from other foreign investments in Cambodia.

"These industries will be covered in another law," the minister said, explaining that most members of the assembly felt that the nine percent rate was too low for these lucrative businesses which exploit limited resource reserves in the country.

However, the proposed change did meet with opposition—reportedly from several un-named CPP [Cambodian People's Party] parliamentarians—and there was some debate before the assembly agreed to amend the draft legislation.

A separate law which will almost certainly impose higher tariffs on natural resource profits, will be drafted "very soon" by the Ministry of Industry, according to Sam Rangsi.

The final 13 articles of the draft law are expected to be approved by the National Assembly today.

Though the passage of an investment law will be a relief to many in Cambodia, especially those seeking current legislation and regulatory guidelines for business purposes, the draft law is not without its critics.

One of the larger points of debate concerns the Cambodian Development Council (CDC) and the role it will assume. As one foreign observer noted, "(This law) will give the CDC sweeping powers over all development and investment in Cambodia. This is contrary to the point of view of most donors and donor countries."

Donors have repeatedly stressed the importance "transparency," or a straightforward and relatively direct system of accounting for financial assistance.

Article 3 of the draft law declares the CDC to be "The competent organization and a "one stop shop" responsible for reconstruction and development as well as investment work. The CDC assists and substitutes for the Royal Government in examining and deciding on matters of reconstruction, development and investment."

"If the CDC is going to become a super-ministry, it will be taking on powers without the history of experience or the personnel," one financial expert observed.

Under the present version of the draft law, which is considered to be much more explicit in English than in Khmer, the role of the CDC is unclear as well as unchecked. Article 19 refers to arbitration of "any dispute related to an investment in the Kingdom of Cambodia," which, if unresolved within one month between the concerned parties, will be turned over to the CDC for a final decision. Given the CDC's role in granting approval for foreign investment projects, many businessmen feel the council may not be an objective arbitrator.

"We believe that since it is the CDC which would have, in the first place, approved and granted incentives, it would not be fair (possible conflict of interest) for the CDC to act as an arbitrator," reads a critique of the law from the Corporate Club, a group comprised of 13 well-known international companies operating in Cambodia.

Other criticisms of the law include vaguely defined terms such as "investor" and "incentives," an imprecise and incomplete description of the application process for investment projects, and unrealistic guidelines for Khmer employment and promotion.

Nevertheless, the foreign investment community is expected to welcome the long awaited guidelines as an indication that Cambodia is serious about attracting international business.

Citing Leaks, Government Threatens Punishment

BK0608113294 Hong Kong AFP in English 1051 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug 6 (AFP)—The Cambodian government has warned its officials not to talk or give information to the press without prior high-level authorisation or be severely punished.

"If government officials do not heed this warning and continue to act against the regulations, the royal government will investigate and those guilty of serious infringements will be severely punished by law," according to an internal government statement, obtained by AFP Saturday.

Cabinet decisions and government documents were being publicised by the local and international media before they were officially released, the statement, signed by Cabinet Ministers Sok An and Veng Sereyvudh, said.

Premature publication of government secrets could hamper the administration's effectiveness and have adverse effects on the military and security situation, the statement said.

"Some officials are not faithful to the national interest, are not conscientious or professional and are giving confidential information and documents to the media to serve their own interests," the statement said.

Information and important documents should only be given to the press if ministers or heads of departments have given their approval, it said.

Meanwhile, the Phnom Penh municipal court agreed to release on bail a newspaper editor who has been imprisoned since July 9.

The authorities arrested and imprisoned Ngoun Nonn, editor of Dom Ning Pil Prek (Morning News), for publishing articles implicating senior government officials in a recent attempted coup. The authorities said the articles contained false information and were a threat to public order.

No date for Nguon Nonn's trial has yet been fixed.

The government had come under strong criticism from local and international human rights groups for imprisoning the editor.

Speaking to reporters July 26 while on a visit here, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Jose Ayala-Lasso said he had raised Ngoun Nonn's case with co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

Ayala-Lasso said he had received assurances that the charges against Nguon Nonn would be dropped and that the editor would "soon" be released.

The editor, however, remained in prison and a government official later said the UN commisioner must have misunderstood what he had been told.

Indonesia

Nuclear Plant Construction To Start in 1996

BK0908083394 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1552 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 8 (ANTARA)—The construction of a nuclear power generating plant in the Muria peninsula, Jepara, Central Java, is due to start in May 1996 following the completion of a feasibility study, Director General of the National Atomic Energy Agency (Batan) Jali Ahimsa has said.

The feasibility study of the project, conducted by a Japanese consultant for about four and a half years which also covered a correct location for the plant, was started in November 1991, Jali Ahimsa said in Jakarta Monday.

Determining the location of the plant would involve considerations of soil condition, and nearby tourist objects, as well as those which may be developed in the area in the wake of the completion of the megaproject, he added.

He said a single unit of the project may require 300 hectares of land, and the six units would need a total of 650 hectares.

The money invested in the project, which will have a capacity of two times 1,000 megawatts, would amount to three billion US dollars covering a period of seven to eight years.

The power generating plant will meet electricity needs toward year 2015. Close to the beginning of the fifth Five-Year Development Plan, the installed power need in Java and Bali reached 27,000 megawatts. After taking into account the energy from non-nuclear energy resources, it appeared a further 7,000 mw in installed capacity was still needed.

He said if the shortage in the electric power was to be met by the nuclear power generating complex with a capacity of 600 to 1000 mw, 12 units would be required.

And if each unit became operational in every two years in a row, it would take 10 to 21 years toward the year 2015, so that in the early 2000s, the first unit is expected to become operational, Jali Ahimsa said.

The latest study showed that Java and Bali required 32,7101 mw in installed electricity by 2015, while the power shortage that needed to be added would amount to 7,625 mw.

The introduction of the 600 to 900 mw nuclear power generating project into the Java-Bali grid in the early 2000s would not face difficulties, and would be the right solution, Jali added.

He said there were a total of 424 nuclear power generating plants operating in 30 different countries in the world up to the end of 1992 with a total installed capacity of 330,651 mw.

In the meantime, a total of 27 units with a capacity of 59,720 mw are still under construction, and by the end of 1993, there were 430 nuclear power generating plants in operation in the world, he said.

Australian Defense Minister on Exercises

BK0508144694 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0951 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Denpasar, Bali, Aug 5 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia-Australia joint military exercises can prevent misunderstandings between Jakarta and Canberra and bring the relations of both nations even closer, Australian Defence Minister Senator Robert Ray said here Friday.

Speaking to reporters at the end of his five-day visit in Indonesia at Ngurah Rai Airport, the Australian minister said that the military exercise of both neigbouring countries will continue to develop in the future.

Senator Robert Ray said that the established good relations will serve as a reference for the two states to increase their bilateral military cooperation in the future.

The two countries have made many achievements in their cooperation, he said.

The Australian defence minister early this week held talks in Jakarta with his Indonesian counterpart Edi Sudrajat on efforts to step up cooperation of the armed forces of the two countries.

During his talks with Sudrajat, Senator Ray discussed cooperation in education and training as well as exchange programs between the two countries' junior and senior officers.

In reply to a question on the possibility that the military cooperation between the two states be continued with arms and military equipment sales by Australia to Indonesia, Ray said it was possible but needed further discussions.

Asked about East Timor, the Australian defence minister said that East Timor is just the same as other provinces in Indonesia.

Australia is the first country to support Indonesia on East Timor, he said.

He said that Australia has contributed much assistance to the development of East Timor, a former Portuguese colony which integrated into Indonesia in 1976.

During his Indonesian visit, Robert Ray who was accompanied by Australian Armed Forces Chief Al Beaumont and a number of staff officers, met with President Suharto and Vice President Try Sutrisno.

Senator Robert Ray flew to his country on Friday aboard a special Royal Australian Air Force plane. He was seen off by Defence Minister Edi Sudrajat at the airport.

Government Ponders Policy Decision on Al-Arqam

BK0708123394 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] Susilo Sudarman, coordinating minister for politics and security affairs, says the government will not be influenced by other countries' decisions on whether it should ban Al-Arqam [Islamic movement] teachings in Indonesia. Up to now, the government has not yet taken a position on Al-Arqam teachings, which have become a topic of serious discussion among Muslims in Southeast Asia.

Speaking after he met with rectors, lecturers, teachers, and sports instructors in Purwokerto last night, Susilo Sudarman said the Religious Affairs Department, Indonesian Council of Ulemas, and the Attorney General's Office are investigating the Al-Arqam movement, which originated in Malaysia, so as to decide on whether the government should ban its teachings.

The Al-Arqam teachings, propagaged by Malaysian national Ashaari Muhammad since 1968, have created a furor among Muslims because some of them are considered to have deviated from true Islamic teachings.

Attorney General Bans Book by Al-Arqam Leader

BK0808095294 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Excerpt] The attorney general has banned a book entitled: "Presiden Suharto ikut jadwal Allah" [President

Suharto Follows God's Schedule] written by Kuala Lumpur-based Ashaari Muhammad and published by the Indonesian Al-Arqam publishing company. The ban, effective 6 August, was announced by Attorney General Singgih in Jakarta today after he met with President Suharto at the Bina Graha Presidential Office this morning.

Speaking to reporters, Attorney General Singgih said the book is banned because it can disrupt public order, especially religious harmony between Muslims and followers of other religions in Indonesia. The first and second edition of the book were published in Kuala Lumpur in August 1993, while the third one was published in Indonesia in September 1993.

The attorney general said the ban was based on Law No.4/1963 on the publication of books which may disrupt public order as well as on Article 23 clause 3 of Law No.5/1991. [passage omitted on review of Kedung Ombo reservoir trial)

Military Seizes 59 Tons of Cannabis in Aceh

BK0908090494 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 10 Jul 94 p 1

[Excerpt] Lhokseumawe, KOMPAS—A week-long operation conducted from 1-7 July by the Southeast Aceh Military Command Team 0108 in the forest of Blang Kejeren district, 140 kms from Kutacane, successfully recovered 59 tons of fresh cannabis in 24 locations. The team used a helicopter from the 011/LW Military Command. The discovery was the biggest ever made over the past five years. A hundred tons of cannabis was discovered during the 1989 Operation Nila conducted by the Southeast Aceh Police Headquarters. Prior to this, the Kutacane-Medan cannabis trade was difficult to detect because it was well planned.

Lt.-Col (Infantry) Rahmat Budianto, the head of the Military Operation Resort Command 011/LW, contacted by KOMPAS through Captain (Infantry) Firdaus, the information department chief of the Military Resort Command, stated on 9 July that the operation was a territorial "network" operation. He said that apart from the growing concern about narcotics, the operation was launched because of the huge amount of funds that could be derived from the sale of narcotics toward funding the GPK's (Security Disturbance Group) [provincial separatist group] activities in Aceh.

No one was detained during the week-long, operation, but the residents were reminded and advised of the danger cannabis could pose to society. They were also cautioned not to be misled by the promise of money by unscrupulous persons. They were also informed of the GPK's attempts to seek funds through the sale of cannabis. [passage omitted]

* Foreigners Invited To Invest in Transportation

94SE0190B Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Jul 94 p 2

[Text] Minister of Transportation Haryanto Dhanutirto invited the foreign and domestic private sectors to increase investments in land, sea and air transportation infrastructure, such as integrated terminals, railroads, railways, railway stations, roads, interisland harbors, container terminals, tourist terminals and the construction and development of a number of airports.

"This is in accordance with a change in Department of Transportation policy, which is no longer just managing projects, but is also urging the private sector to invest in transportation infrastructure," said Haryanto after a meeting with President Suharto at the Presidential Executive Offices on Saturday (2 July). This is especially true since, he said, private investments already comprise 70 percent of Department of Transportation projects.

Private investment in strategic transportation projects was made possible by Government Decision 20/1994. "Many foreign investors have asked about this and have stated that they want to invest in Indonesia's transportation infrastructure. That is why an inter-departmental team is needed, not to slow down the process but rather to speed it up," said Haryanto.

Because, said Haryanto—and he also reported this to the president—if the process takes too long, many private investors will withdraw. "For the private sector, the important thing is yes or no," he said.

Airport Projects

The Minister of Transportation explained that private participation was necessary for several large projects, such as the development of eight airports, which will require an estimated $1,371 billion in funding.

Medan's Polonia Airport, which will occupy an area of 2,200 hectares (1,200 hectares for civil aviation and 1,000 hectares for the TNI AU [Indonesian Air Force]), will be moved to Kuala Namu (Deli Serdang) facing the coast. The "building exchange" method will be used to make the move; it is now being coordinated by Minister/State Secretary Moerdiono.

"There already are foreign and domestic parties who are willing to invest. This is why it is still in process and has not been announced yet. But the Schiphol Company (Amsterdam) is among the foreign investors. If Schiphol invests in it, all KLM flights will go through Medan," he said.

About $600 million is needed to develop that airport. Because the new airport will have two runways it will be built in several stages. The first runway will be 3,000 meters long and will be built during PELITA [Five-Year Development Plan] VI; the second runway will be 4,000 meters long and will be built during PELITA VII. A new airport will also be constructed in Central Lombok with an investment of $169.37 million. "There already are foreign and domestic investors who are interested, but it is still at the preliminary discussion stage. The president has ordered that no single party monopolize construction so that both foreign and domestic parties must always be involved in airport construction." he said.

Singapore, said Haryanto, has stated that it is interested in taking part in the construction of the entire airport. The president has indicated that Singapore should handle only part of it. if Singapore wants to fund part of the investment, it can do its part in providing soft loans.

Surabaya's Juanda Airport will also be developed so that Boeing 747-400s can land there. For that purpose, the airport needs an additional 326.924 hectares of land, 195.157 of which is already under construction. "There were some demonstrations yesterday. This isn't right because the prices paid to buy the land were the highest prices in East Java," he said.

He explained that the cost of expanding the airport is $114.6 million and at the present time there already are several foreign investors who are willing to invest. But the OECF (Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund-Japan) also wants to take part. The president has asked the Minister of Transportation to consider this proposal in coordination with the Chairman of BAPPENAS [National Development Planning Board].

The Minister of Transportation said that the Solo's Adi Sumarno Airport will also be developed into an international airport in order to service Boeing 74-400-type aircraft. Concrete plans already exist and the cost will be $130 million. There are foreign and domestic private investors who are interested.

"There are many applications pending for investing in the development of this airport because they see good prospects for developing tourism by the year 2000 with plans for 2 million tourist arrivals," he said. Therefore, he said, interested parties in the private sector are invited to contact the Angkasa Pura Public Corporation directly. The land will be made available right away.

Ujungpandang's Hasanuddin Airport will also be developed into 747,400 square meters of land and this will require $270 million. This project, which is expected to be carried out with financial aid from the French government, is still at the stage of being designed by French consultants.

Haryanto said that Manado's Sam Ratulangi Airport and Ambon's Pattimura Airport will also be developed to service DC-10s and MD-11s with loans from the ADB (Asia Development Bank). Naco [expansion unknown] and DHF [expansion unknown] consultants from the Netherlands are now completing the master plans. The total cost will be $179 million.

In response to questions about the development of Padang's Tabing Airport, Haryanto explained that according to the president's directions this project will be offered to Singapore. "The plan is to build it in the fifth year of PELITA VI. But if Singapore wants to accelerate it, let them go ahead. We will try to offer it to Singapore".

BUMN [State-Owned Enterprise Board] Profits

Haryanto explained that BUMN profits in the second quarter totaled 257.282 billion rupiahs, an increase of 25.24 percent over the 205.426 billion rupiahs in estimated profits for the second quarter.

Only the following five BUMNs played a significant role: Indonesian Port II, with a profit of 30.5 billion rupiahs (18.3 percent) over projections; Indonesian Port III with 11.66 billion rupiahs; Angkasa Pura Public Corporation (PAP) I with 16.2 billion rupiahs; PAP II with 31.5 billion rupiahs; and Garuda with 146.7 billion rupiahs.

Up to and including the second quarter, the accumulated profits of the BUMNs under the Department of Transportation were 328.908 billion rupiahs before taxes. Efforts are being made, he said, to exceed the target by the end of the year.

* Reissuance of Publishing Permit Discussed

94SE0188B Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 1 Jul 94 pp 1,13

[Text] Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Soesilo Soedarman asserted that yesterday's Coordinating Meeting for Political and Security Affairs had agreed to pay serious attention to the fate of the reporters and employees affected by the cancellation of their Press Publication Permits (SIUPP). The government might issue new SIUPPs for them with no time limitation.

"So, everything now depends on the actions of those concerned," affirmed the retired four-star general at a press conference held in Jakarta after he headed the Ministerial-Level Coordinating Meeting for Political and Security Affairs. Present at that meeting were the Minister for Defense and Security, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Information, the Minister/State Secretary, the Commander of the Armed Forces and the Head of BAKIN [State Intelligence Coordinating Board]. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of the Interior and the Attorney General were represented respectively by the Director General of Sociocultural and Information Relations of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Expert Staff for People's Welfare of the Department of the Interior and the Junior Attorney General for Intelligence.

This Coordinating Meeting for Political and Security Affairs, said Soesilo Soedarman, paid a great deal of attention to the cancellation of Tempo's, Editor's and DeTIK's SIUPPs. The Coordinating Meeting believes that the cancellation of their SIUPPs was based on existing legal regulations. This means that the government will not rescind the Minister of Information's directive to cancel the SIUPPs but will provide the parties concerned with an opportunity to be issued new SIUPPs with no time limitation.

"If they do wish to submit a request, the government will certainly pay attention to it and consider it. So, the speed with which new SIUPPs are issued very much depends on the actions of the parties concerned," said Soesilo Soedarman.

One condition which must be fulfilled, he added, is that there will certainly be special conditions attached to the issuance of a new SIUPP. One of these conditions is that the parties concerned must be able to adjust their perceptions about responsible freedom of the press to ones based on the values of PANCASILA [Five Principles of the Nation].

Harmoko at Commission I

At a working meeting with Commission I of the DPR [Parliament] held a day earlier (29 June), Minister of Information Harmoko stated that the government was really forced to cancel the three press SIUPPs as part of the effort to develop a healthy press. "Cancelling the SIUPPs does not mean that we have diminished the significance of the openness that we have declared. It must be understood that openness means responsible openness," asserted Harmoko.

The working meeting which lasted about six hours and did not adjourn until 1:30 in the morning on Thursday was dominated by discussions of the cancellation of the three SIUPPs. A majority of the 18 members of Commission I who asked questions discussed the best possible solutions leading to press development. In fact, in general they urged the government not to cancel any more SIUPPs.

Harmoko said that the cancellation of the SIUPPs should not be interpreted as killing off the human resources of the three publications involved because the government has provided an alternative, i.e., the issuance of new SIUPPs.

But, he stressed, applicants must be able to adjust, meaning they must be able to meet the stipulations which have been established. "For example, those involved in the issuance of SIUPPs. If not, well, it will be difficult," he said.

Responding to a question from B. N. Marbun (Indonesian Democracy Party Faction) about the definition of a free and responsible press, Harmoko did not want to give a long answer. "That's already in my written response," he said, referring to the book which he had issued. But in the end he referred to the 1966 Decisions of the MPRS [Interim People's Consultative Council].

"For an example of a free and responsible press see section 2 of MPRS Decision Number 32 of 1966. There it is stated that freedom of the press is closely tied to responsibility to God the Almighty, to the interests of the people, to morality and ethics, and to national character. It's a serious matter," he said.

In fact, in paragraph 2 of this decision it is further spelled out that freedom of the press is the freedom to state what is true and just and not freedom in the sense of liberalism. "Well, that decision was then spelled out in the GBHN [Broad Outlines of the Nation's Direction] and in the Press Laws," he added.

The Fate of Other Media

On this occasion Minister Harmoko did not want to say anything definite about rumors that the SIUPPs of other media would also be cancelled. He only said, "The government is determined not to impose any more cancellations if the regulations and directives in effect are followed and not violated".

Commenting on the opinion that the Minister of Information's Directive to cancel the SIUPPs conflicts with Press Law Number 21 of 1982, Harmoko explained that that opinion was inaccurate. "It is true that section 4 of the Press Laws states that the national press will not be censored or curbed. But, look at section 11, which reads that publications which are in conflict with PANCASILA, such as those based on Communism, Marxism or Leninism, are banned, and so the Minister of Information's Directive is in compliance with the Press Laws."

Pros and Cons

Meanwhile, it was reported from Yogyakarta that 10 students and young people belonging to the Yogyakarta Student and Youth Council (DMPY) went to the DPRD [Provincial Parliament] of the Yogyakarta Autonomous Region yesterday and protested the beating of those demonstrating and participating in the free pulpit against the cancellation of TEMPO's, EDITOR's and DETIK's SIUPPs some days ago.

Received by Deputy Chairman of Yogyakarta's DPRD Alfian Darmawan (Development Party Faction) and by Soeharto (Indonesian Democracy Party Faction), the leader of the group Arifin Syafei expressed his hope that the DPRD would ask the security forces not to approach every problem from a security point of view. The DPRD said that they agreed with the protests.

Meanwhile, the UII's [Islamic University of Indonesia] Law School also stated that members of the press should bring the matter before the PTUN [National Business Court]. Government officials violated the law by cancelling the SIUPPs and the press must deal with this through the legal system. Artidjo Alkostar, Chairman of the Criminal Law Department; S. F. Marbun, an expert on National Business Law; and Zainal Abidin, the Dean of UII's Law School, made this statement.

Artidjo Alkostar, former Director of Yogyakarta's LBH [Legal Aid Society], expressed his opinion that Minister of Information Directives Number 123, 124 and 125 are in conflict with Section 28 of the 1945 Constitution and with Sections 4 and 5 of Regulation Number 11 of 1966. "In that regulation it is clearly stated that the national press cannot be censored or curbed. Legally, the term cancellation of a SIUPP is in fact the same as curbing it," said Artidjo Alkostar.

Meanwhile, about 150 students from various universities held sympathy demonstrations at the Bandung Gasibu [Sports and Culture Stadium] in opposition to the cancellation of the three SIUPPs.

On the other hand, it was reported from Medan that 100 young people from 15 OKPs [Work and Youth Organizations], who had merged in the People's Integration Solidarity Forum (FSIB), expressed their feelings to the governor's office and to the North Sumatra DPRD in support of the government's position on cancelling the three SIUPPs.

Carrying banners, the young people went to the governor's office on Diponegoro Street, Medan yesterday and were received by Abdul Wahab Dalimunthe, North Sumatra Provincial Region Secretary. The demonstrators went on foot to the North Sumatra DPRD Building and were received there by DPRD Chairman Haji Mudiono.

* Xanana Visited by Family

94SE0190A Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Jul 94 p 6

[Text] Maria Emilia Pedro Gusmao, 45, the wife of Jose Alexandre Xanana Gusmao, visited the former ringleader of the Fretilin Disturbance of the Peace Movement (GPK) at the Cipinang Penitentiary in Jakarta. She and her two children Eugenio Paolo, 23, and Zeinilda Emilia, 19, arrived in Jakarta from Australia on Thursday (30 June).

They returned to Australia on Qantas Airlines, leaving Soekarno-Hatta Airport at 4:45 pm West Indonesia Time on Saturday (2 July). When questioned by ANTARA [Indonesian News Agency], Qantas officials said that the plane would transit first in Singapore at about 6:15 pm West Indonesia Time.

Xanana's family entered Indonesia carrying Portuguese passports. According to AFP [Agence France Press] reports, their visit was "arranged" by the ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross). Xanana had not seen his wife and children since they migrated to Australia in the mid 1970's.

In 1992 a council of judges of the Dili State Court, headed by Judge Hironymus Godang, sentenced Xanana to life imprisonment. After he asked the president for a pardon through his legal advisor Sudjono, his sentence was reduced to 20 years. The sentence was imposed because he had masterminded a series of subversive criminal activities with the aim of undermining the legal authority of the government.

Lopa's Comments

Meanwhile, Director General of Prisons of the Department of Justice Prof Dr Baharuddin Lopa, S.H. [Master of Laws], who was contacted separately, said that the visit of Xanana Gusmao's wife and children to the Cipinang Penitentiary was an ordinary visit, no different from other inmates being visited by their families.

"Xanana's family submitted a request to the Director General of Prisons of the Department of Justice and it was granted. So, I know about the visit," said Lopa, adding that the request was proper and that it was granted on humanitarian grounds. "This means that if Xanana's family wants to visit Xanana again at Cipinang, let them go ahead—anytime." he added.

Asked about other parties who might wish to visit Xanana Gusmao, Lopa answered politely saying, "The Director General of Prisons of the Department of Justice would examine the request first to see what interests were served in visiting Xanana and whether it was urgent," he said.

This stipulation of "seeing what interests were served and whether it was urgent", he said, is also true for reporters.

* Government Considering Five-Day Work Week

94SE0188A Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 30 Jun 94 pp 1,13

[Text] President Suharto stated yesterday that the government is considering the possibility of establishing a 5-day work week. The Head of State made this statement at an interview after announcing the National Prosperous Family Development Movement, which is centered on the Village of Semembung, Sidoarjo, East Java.

If a 5-day work week is established, said President Suharto, a lot of money can be saved, for example in the use of electricity and the telephone. In addition, city people will have the opportunity to shop in the villages. This will improve village economy and in the long run will improve the welfare of villagers. In that way this will support the program for eliminating poverty.

"The government invites city people to go to the villages and to buy goods produced by the villages," said the president.

On this occasion, the president was accompanied by Mrs Tien Suharto, Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare Azwar Anas, Minister for Social Affairs Mrs Inten Soeweno, Minister of Cooperatives and Small Business Development Subiakto Tjakrawerdaya, State Minister for Population/Chairman of the National Family Planning Board Haryono Suyono, Minister/Cabinet Secretary Saadilah Mursyid and Governor of East Java Basofi Soedirman.

During the program, President Suharto presented the "Wira Karya" award to several officials and social figures who have served the cause of family planning. Among the recipients of the award were the Governor of East Java Basofi Soedirman, Mrs. Siti Hardiyanti Indra Rukmana, Bob Hasan (General Chairman of the Indonesian Lumber Society), the head of the Sidoarjo District Infantry Colonel Edhi Sanjoto, and the head of the Lumajang District Tarmin Hariadi.

State Minister for Population/Chairman of the National Family Planning Board Haryono Suyono urged city people, who are relatively well off, to pay more attention to their families in the villages, who are relatively backward in family development.

Prosperous Family

In remarks made when announcing the National Prosperous Family Development Movement, the Head of State urged all levels of the government, the private business community, all social organizations and social figures to care more about and participate more in the development of family welfare.

The announcement of this national movement coincides with the celebration of National Family Day, which is centered on the Village of Semembung, Sidoarjo, East Java. The president said that there was a good reason for choosing this village. The people of this village have a great enthusiasm for development. The have a strong sense of mutual cooperation so that the lives of the villagers have been getting more and more prosperous.

"We all want to learn from these villagers how to develop a prosperous family through mutual cooperation and self-sufficiency. I believe that thousands and thousands of other villages will model themselves after Semambung," said the Head of State.

The Head of State explained why National Family Day is celebrated every 29 June by referring to the events of 45 years ago when TNI [Indonesian National Army] soldiers and freedom fighters, who were fighting a guerrilla war outside Yogyakarta—the capital city of the struggle—were able to come together with their families again.

The president then described the successes of development and the effects produced by it. He said that the successes of development up to now have not only raised families' financial capabilities but have also reduced family size, tending towards a smaller and more dynamic nuclear family. In addition, changing from an agrarian society to an industrial society has also increased their mobility.

"On the one hand, it is clear that these changes are motivating forces behind development; on the other hand, they can loosen family ties. This can result in decreased respect for family values. Family spirit is one of the important characteristics of our society," said the president.

Family Stability

The Head of State said that the increasingly wide-spread influence of globalization and the increasingly swift flow of information entering the heart of society also result in the introduction of new values from outside. But not all of these outside values are in keeping with our nation's culture. In fact, some are harmful.

Juvenile delinquency, alcohol abuse, narcotics and other social problems have appeared in our society. "This shows that many families are unstable. If they have a high level of stability, they will be a bastion against these changes. Only prosperous families have a high level of stability," he said.

At present, he also said, many families are classified as underdeveloped, as preprosperous. They are families which find it hard to meet their minimum physical needs, such as clothing, food, shelter and health.

Other families are classified as level I (one) prosperous families, those which can just about meet their minimum physical needs, but cannot meet other needs. That is why this nation must fight even harder to increase the quality of life of its families. For that purpose the Presidential Instruction on Underdeveloped Families will be implemented starting with REPELITA [Five-Year Development Plan] VI.

"If we do not respond to this problem in time, it will be hard for us to achieve the development targets of PJP [Long-Range Development] II. Even more, it will cause new problems which will not be easy for us to solve," said the president.

Thailand

Cambodia Urged To Judge Suspects Fairly

BK0808113794 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Aug 94 p A6

[Editorial: "Cambodia Should Play It Straight With Thai Suspects"]

[Text] It is now 36 days since 14 Thais were arrested at Phnom Penh airport on suspicion of being involved in the July 2 coup bid against Cambodia's government. None of the 14 have been charged and yet all remain under detention with no idea of what the Cambodians intend to do with them.

Cambodian Co-Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh said Thursday there was "no doubt at all" that many of the 14 were involved in the coup attempt. His comments follow a series of allegations emanating from Phnom Penh that the Thais were hired saboteurs and marksmen.

Cambodian officials in charge of the investigation have said that some of the Thais have confessed to being involved in the coup while others were not cooperating with their interrogators.

The coup attempt was a cynical and condemnable attempt to overthrow Cambodia's fledgling democracy and the perpetrators deserve to be severely punished. But the fact that Cambodia has already released one of the main leaders of the coup bid, Prince Norodom Charkkrapong, and pardoned the soldiers involved also indicates the sensitivity of the case.

The coup had its origins in the deeply rooted enmity of the two main parties in the ruling coalition and further rivalries within the Cambodia People's Party itself.

Prince Chakkrapong's alleged co-conspirators, former interior minister Sin Song and the recently-promoted secretary of state for the interior Sin Sen, are under arrest in Phnom Penh but there remains much speculation that the real masterminds of the coup may still be sitting in high government office.

Against this backdrop it is perhaps, understandable why the Cambodians have been so wary about taking action against the Thais. But such prudence cannot be regarded as acting in the right way.

The new Cambodian government has an enormous task in rebuilding its country. Its first task is simply to survive as an elected and democratically-minded institution in a land where violence has too often decided who holds the reigns of power.

But along with this need to protect their mandate, they must also set precedents for continued fair rule in the future. And nowhere is this more important than in the field of law.

Cambodia's current legal system is in a mess. Only a handful of legally trained professionals remain after decades of war, revolution and refugee flight and the legal code is a confused jumble of French, Vietnamese and socialist systems. But if the current government is to leave behind a legacy based on the rule of law, and not jungle law, then they must pay respect to internationally recognized standards of legal procedure.

First, the Cambodians must start with the presumption that the Thais are innocent until proven guilty. Waiting for confessions that are obviously being made under duress is not acceptable (even if it is the standard form of prosecution in Thailand).

The Thais must be charged with whatever crimes they are suspected of having committed and a time period set for how long they can be held. If the prosecution needs more time to build a case their request for an extension of detention should be submitted to a judge or tribunal to decide.

Following such legal standards will have numerous benefits. By operating in a transparent and fair manner, the Cambodians will be in a stronger position to seek Thailand's help in the investigation of the murky role played by former MP Adun Bunset, who fled Phnom Penh airport on July 3 and escaped overland to Thailand.

But most importantly, the Cambodian government will be showing their own people that in a land where justice has long been blinded by fear, law has taken a position of pre-eminence.

* PRC-Made Missiles Found Near Cambodia Border

94SE0185A Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 26 Jun 94 pp 1, 17

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] At 0500 on 25 June Police Colonel Bamrung Sukphanit, the head of the Provincial Police of Buriram Province, received a report from an informant that military weaponry would be transported through Ban Kruat District of Buriram Province. So he sent Police Colonel Trakun Inthawasu, a commander and deputy head of the Provincial Police of Buriram Province, to lead a force of police from the Ban Kruat District Provincial Police Station. The force included Police Lieutenant Colonel Niphop Udomdet, a deputy commander and head of the Ban Kruat District Provincial Police Station. They set up a roadblock at the three corners in the Ban Kruat settlement.

They noticed a white Isuzu car, license M 2436 Suphanburi, traveling at high speed. They stopped it to inspect it. Inside the car they found Mr. Somsak Chun-arom, 33, Mr. Wanchai Phuakphao, 32, and Miss Chittra Ngamthin, 19. On inspecting the car, they found three modern anti-aircraft missle launchers from China. When the accused were arrested, they tried to claim that they were soldiers from the First Regiment of the Third Anti-Aircraft Battalion from Lop Buri Province, but the officials did not believe them because they had no proof. So the officials detained them along with the evidence and sent them to Police Lieutenant Lek Phonyut, the duty officer at the Ban Kruat District Provincial Police Station, to proceed with the case. The officials also wrote a letter to the First Infantry Regiment, Third Battalion to find out whether the two accused were actually soldiers.

Prasong Views Human Resources Shortages

BK0908082794 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri has stressed the need for members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to seek ways and means to conduct joint activities based on mutual interests.

The foreign minister yesterday presided over the opening ceremony of the two-day seminar on APEC business volunteer program at the Regent Hotel in Bangkok.

In his statement, Foreign Minister Prasong said countries in the Asia and Pacific region have enjoyed rapid economic growths during the past few years. As a consequence, many of them have been faced with shortages in human resources in various areas, especially in the field of engineering. Skilled workers, technicians, and specialists are badly in demand.

The foreign minister said shortages of human resources have caused obstacles to economic development in the region. For this reason, he said, as an APEC member, Thailand has proposed the business volunteer program at the APEC leaders meeting in Seattle, the United States, last year.

The proposal approved by the meeting calls for technology transfer to the business community in both developed and developing countries by the volunteers who are experts in various fields. The volunteers will not receive salaries and they will not commit to any businesses under the program.

Troops Order Mon Refugees To Return to Camp

BK0908085394 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Aug 94 p A8

[Text] THOUSANDS of Mon refugees who fled into Thailand following an attack on their camp at Halockhani by Burmese soldiers have been ordered by police to return to Halockhani by tomorrow.

The roughly 4,000 refugees are currently housed in makeshift shelters at a Thai-Burma border checkpoint in Kanchanaburi. But at a meeting with the camp's leaders, Border Patrol Police (BPP) officers ordered them all to return to Halockhani by Aug 10.

The refugees, however, replied that they could not go back now because they feared for their safety. The BPP then reportedly threatened to "block off the camp" if they didn't return.

Although the refugees are said to have plenty of food, drinking water is in short supply and has to be trucked in regularly from Sangkha Buri town.

Both the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the foreign embassies which monitor refugee activities have so far refused to speak out publicly on behalf of the Mon refugees, although UNHCR officials visited the site recently.

Halockhani is in a disputed area along the border beyond the BPP checkpoint. Most of the refugees had moved there only this year from another camp in Thailand on the orders of Thai authorities, who had promised they would be safe from attacks by Burmese soldiers stationed at nearby Three Pagodas Pass.

But on July 21, soldiers from Burma's 62nd Light Infantry Battalion, previously stationed at Three Pagodas Pass, entered Palai Thumpai Village at the western of the edge of the camp, arrested 16 leaders and burned down many of the houses [sentence as published]. They were prevented from moving on to the rest of Halockhani by Mon soldiers.

Four of the 16 men taken away by the Burmese soldiers have returned, and the others are expected back "soon", a well-placed source said. One of the men reportedly claimed to have been beaten, burned with cigarettes and nearly drowned before being released.

It is believed that the leaders were taken away in reprisal for an earlier clash between the 62nd Battalion and the villagers of Palai Thumpai which left at least one Burmese soldier dead.

Deputy Minister Reports on Copyright Law Status

BK0808162394 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] The United States is satisfied with the suppression of copyright violations in Thailand and will consider lifting Thailand from the Priority Watch List within the next three months, according to Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit.

Citing a report from the Thai commercial adviser in the United States, Churin said that the United States will also give GSP [Generalized System of Preferences] or tariff preferences back to more than 10 Thai products after the passage and enforcement of the Copyrights Law.

[Begin Churin recording] The copyright law is now being considered by the Senate. If we can finish the work late this month, we, with permission from the Government Parties Coordination Committee, will submit a draft bill to the House during the upcoming extraordinary session so that we can notify the United States to lift us from the list, which will be beneficial for both countries. [end recording]

Pointing out that the problem of foreign copyrights being violated by Thai nationals has declined considerably, Churin said that more Thai copyrights are being violated by foreigners. For example, Thai music cassettes have been copied in Malaysia and smuggled back across the border to sell in Thailand. The Police and Customs Departments have been requested to take more drastic action against such illegal practices. The issue will be brought up for discussion with Malaysian officials during the meeting of ASEAN senior officials in September.

* Officials Discuss Worker Rights, Child Labor

Chief Adviser to Minister Comments

94SE0170A Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 7 Jun 94 p 5

[Report by Phaithun Kaeothong: "Thailand Explains to the International Community About the Problem of Child Labor"]

[Excerpt] The Minister of Labor and Social Welfare and his group left for Geneva, Switzerland. [passage omitted]

Mr. Nikhom Chantharawithun, the chief adviser to the minister of labor, went with this group. He said he was confident that they could explain to the member countries of the International Labor Organization that Thailand had taken care of the problem of child labor.

Mr. Nikhom said that Thailand could explain that in the last two years the minister had been able to take care of many child labor problems. He had taken care of the minimum age. He had raised the minimum age, which had been 12, to 13. He had accelerated the pace of inspections and increased the awareness of employers. But this was a problem of society and economics. The state tried to solve the problem by increasing the incomes of the parents so that the children could study and would not have to start work when they were still children.

He said that the reason other countries felt that Thailand had a big child labor problem was because the figures from private organizations indicated that in Thailand child labor was used illegally. He could not give definite figures. The figures were estimates derived from inspections and arrests in factories where it was discovered that child labor had been used illegally.

He explained that the law required a child to be 13 before he could work and Thailand had 1.2 million children of legal age. Of these about 400,000 worked in industry. The rest worked primarily in agriculture or at home. The greatest concern was for those who worked in industry where sometimes children worked who were under 13 or children who were 13 were used for labor which was too heavy. The labor minister's advisory committee will try to modify the law so that children who work in industry must be at least 14 as in other countries.

* Social Security Mandates, Safety

94SE0170B Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 13 Jun 94 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Employers Warned If Safety Neglected They Will Pay More"]

[Excerpt] Mr. Amphon Singhakowin, the secretary of the social security office, said that inasmuch as the social security law stipulated that any institution with 10 employees or more had to register with the social security office and contribute money to the social security fund and the workers compensation fund, the social security office was announcing the details of these payments as follows:

With regard to contributions to the social security fund, employers, employees, and the government each had to contribute an amount equal to 1.5 percent of the wages involved to the fund. The highest contribution calculated for any wage would not exceed 500 baht per day or 15,000 baht per month. The employer would deduct the money each time there was a wage payment and make the contribution for the employee. This would be combined with an equal contribution from the employer and would be sent to the social security office on or before the 15th day of the next month. If the employer had many branches, he could send one combined contribution or contributions from each branch. If a self-insured person worked for an employer many times, then the employer would deduct from that person's wages each time and send it in. However if the total contributions exceeded the maximum specified 225 baht per month, then the self-insured person could submit a request for the return of the overpayment.

With regard to contributions to the workers' compensation fund, the employer had to pay according to the danger of the activity involved at the rate of between 0.2 and 2.0 percent of the wages. The employer alone was to pay this, and it was to be paid to the workers' compensation fund office annually in January. If the employer hired for many different kinds of activities which were not involved with each other or related, then the social security office would specify many different rates. When the employer had made contributions four years in succession, the office would calculate a new rate for contributions called the contribution rate based on experience. This would be calculated according to contributions and the receipt of workers' compensation payments from the employer for each incident in the previous three-year period. If this rate for losses was high, it would indicate that the institution involved was neglecting the safety of its employees. Then the social security office would increase the contribution rate for following years. If the rate for losses was low, it would indicate that the institution involved was concerned about the safety of its employees. Then the social security office would reduce the rate for contributions. [passage omitted]

* Police Colonel Cited on Child Labor

94SE0170C Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 8 Jun 94 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Police Colonel Bancha Charucharit, the deputy commander of the Center for the Prevention and Suppression of Child Prostitution and Child Labor of the Suppression Division, said concerning the statement of the International Labor Organization that Thailand still had child prostitution and child labor involving children under 18 that it was not entirely correct. But the foreign units were providing a real service, especially the non-governmental organizations which worked together throughout the world. There were many in Thailand working with the people and gathering data in locations, which was sent to the organizations they were affiliated with abroad. So they always had evidence they could cite.

We try to cover things up. But when there is evidence, we have to admit it, and then we hurry to correct it. This makes it clear in the eyes of the world that we are not ignorant of the problems. I am speaking as a Thai. Doesn't this disgrace us? Next they will pressure us with regard to trade. Our economy will worsen because the EC has a great deal of power in this regard.

The media especially has evidence about these problems and prints stories about arrests each time, which is a reliable confirmation of the problems. You can think what you want about the newspapers that may have reported incorrectly. But now there is an investigation to find out to what extent restaurants and amusement facilities are used to conceal brothels. Some localities have responded that there are none. How could such a thing be possible? That was the response from Bang Sue. They think these are people who are betraying their country and destroying its reputation want to finish off the country. But this is not the time to conceal anything. We must help each other to correct the problem. The media is not made up of ignorant people. They report accurately because they want to help the image of the country and because they dig deeply to get evidence. We say that if they did not do this, they could not prove anything.

Police Colonel Bancha also said that working like that was dangerous. There were many pressures. Those who did not know the facts charged that their work was destroying the reputation of the country. But if the media did not get involved, some would charge that we were taking advantage of a colony to collect fees. What these people would say was true, but they would not be able to get the figures to prove it. In fact some things were still being concealed such as the call girls and the massage parlors with false permits. We would need a unit responsible for these activities which could check to see where the children went who left the villages and check to see how many brothels throughout the country were disguised as restaurants. But this would be just a loophole to allow the unit to inspect.

As for the problem of police corruption, this was a matter of a few individuals with responsibilities related to these activities. It did not involve individual officials who had become members of units with responsibilities with regard to labor. There was corruption, but it involved other units getting involved improperly. Every National Police Department director had ordered the complete suppression of this because it was government policy. But whether this was followed by lower echelons or not was another matter. There were cases where police did not dare to act because of false accusations from those trafficking in people and those benefitting from this traffic. This might include officials who were involved accusing their commanders or someone with political power being punished. A committee would be set up to deal with it, and whether they were tainted or not, they would be consigned to that group.

With regard to my recommendation that a unit be set up to respond to the policies of the state at the department level, namely a KhP.PL.TR. (National Police Department Office for the Prevention and Suppression of the Deception of Women for the Purpose of Prostitution Domestic or Foreign as well as Child Prostitution and Illegal Child Labor). This unit would provide checks and balances for the units operating at the center. The work of the SNPh. (Office of Police Planning) overlapped that of the SSR.TR. [expansion unknown], which was a unit of the P. [expansion unknown] which worked just with the P. and was the responsibility of the Suppression Division. If there were a KhP.PL.TR., it would have broad authority and increased power. It would be able to question in the name of the National Police Department under various regional headquarters. The units affiliated with it, which would not be part of the Suppression Division, could investigate the headquarters so everyone would have to respond. The Suppression Division has a more limited authority.

As regards actually solving the problem, police officials can only solve it by suppression. At this point the localities cannot solve it because those trafficking in people have an interconnected network throughout the country which overlaps in many areas so the localities do not have the jurisdiction to counter it. The law that was adopted was the result of requests for greater effectiveness. But it is too late. This group has destroyed its evidence or fled. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Vietnam-Japanese Economic Relations Viewed

BK0508133494 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Japanese prime minister will soon visit Vietnam. It is [words indistinct] the main topic for discussion between Vietnamese and Japanese foreign ministers at a meeting at the 27th ASEAN foreign ministerial conference held recently in Bangkok. The Voice of Vietnam reviews recent relations between Vietnam and Japan.

Lately, the Japanese Government announced that it would provide Vietnam with finance for the construction of a main international airport in northern Vietnam at the cost of (?$500 million). Japan will also help Vietnam build a $10 million fertilizer factory and $38 million sugar factory and loan Vietnam another $200 million for renovating sewage system in Hanoi.

Most recently, the Japanese Government provided Vietnam nonrefundable aid of $430,000 for the 1993 fiscal year. In July 1994 many large Japanese groups and businessmen came to Vietnam to explore opportunities for investment and business. Among them were Japan's Nippon Telegraph Corporation led by Mr. Masashi Kujima. This group has provided Vietnam General Directorate of Post and Communications with many training courses on new technologies and a project to develop a communications network in Dong Anh and Soc Son districts on the outskirts of Hanoi. The two sides signed a memorandum of understanding on bilateral cooperation. The president of the Nippon Telegraph Corporation said that the group would be a reliable trade partner of Vietnam.

The mayor of Hanoi, Mr. Le At Hoi, received a group of Japanese businessmen led by Mr. (Kyo Ayikan). The Japanese head delegate said: Japanese business (?houses) were very interested in investing in Vietnam [words indistinct] Vietnam would achieve a high economic [word indistinct]. He also said: Japanese businessmen who are ready to share experiences with their Vietnamese counterpart, strive to make contributions to the economic development process.

Another Japanese company, (TOA), has entered a joint venture with a Vietnam's state enterprise to build a (?fur) manufacturing factory at Phu My port in Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province in southern Vietnam. It will have a capacity of 240,000 tons per annum. The project costs $46,394,000.

The coming visit to Vietnam by Japanese prime minister will create more prospects for cooperation between Vietnam and Japan.

Vo Van Kiet Issues Laos Logging Decision

BK0608160894 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on 29 July promulgated a decision on the consumption of imported forest products, logging, and forest development cooperation with Laos. The government has agreed that the Forestry Ministry will be the main manager of the quantity of imported goods, and with other relevant agencies, will supervise imports, logging, and legal export of local forest products. Trade, customs agencies, and transport and communication personnel will work together to examine the import and export of wood.

* Basic Points in Draft Labor Law Discussed

942E0058A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 4, 5 May 94 pp 2, 3

[Article by Lawyer Nguyen Thanh Binh: "Some Main Points of the Draft Labor Law"]

[Text] Over the past few years the state has striven to urgently perfect the Draft Labor Law to give expression to the party's correct labor policy, which protects the interests of both employees and employers in order to build harmonious and stable labor relations. The Draft Labor Law has been revised several times and has taken in suggestions made by cadres and the people throughout the country. In particular, at the Fourth Session of the Ninth National Assembly, many deputies had contributed ideas to it. Taking in suggestions made by the National Assembly, the Labor Law Drafting Committee has revised the draft, which has now been published for public comments and will be submitted to the forthcoming Fifth National Assembly Session for consideration and adoption. The Draft Labor Law, which comprises 202 articles and 17 chapters, includes provisions on jobs, job training, labor contracts, collective labor agreements, wages, working and rest hours of laborers, labor discipline, material responsibilities of laborers when they cause losses of property, labor safety, labor sanitation, social insurance, the roles of trade unions and of laborers' representation, order to follow in carrying out procedures to settle labor disputes, state management of labor, state labor inspection, and punishment for labor law breaking. In particular the Draft Labor Law also features stipulations about policies on woman and juvenile labor, old people's labor, handicapped people's labor, highly skilled labor, labor in enterprises established with foreign capital and in foreign agencies and organs, overseas labor, domestics.... It can be affirmed that the revised Draft Labor Law is relatively comprehensive and covers all aspects and angles of labor relations and other social relations directly relating to them. The Draft Labor Law is an important, major development in the process of perfecting our country's legal system. We would like to present here an outline of some important issues in the contents of the Draft Labor Law on which the Labor Law Drafting Committee has taken pains to gather suggestions from the people of all strata.

1. Concerning the scope of readjustment of the Labor Law

The Draft Labor Law affirms that the object of readjustment of the Labor Law is labor relations between employees and employers and other social relations directly relating to social relations of all organizations and individuals that employ contract workers in all economic sectors and in all forms of ownership. The Draft Labor Law also stipulates the application of the Labor Law even to job seekers, apprentices, domestics, employees of enterprises set up in Vietnam with foreign capital, employees of foreign or international agencies and organizations in Vietnam, foreigners authorized to work in enterprises in Vietnamese territory. On the other hand, to overcome the state of some categories of workers whose employment is not in accordance with the labor contract system and whose status has not yet been readjusted by specific laws, the Draft Labor Law determines that the Labor Law may be applied to them. These categories include civil servants; National Assembly deputies; People's Council members; members of the security, police, and armed forces; persons holding elective positions or appointed to serve for fixed terms of office; members of mass and social organizations and cooperatives (juridically speaking, because of their particular characteristics, the status of these categories of workers should be readjusted by other branches of law). These stipulations clearly reflect the view that all labor relations must be determined and readjusted by the law.

2. Concerning the right to work and the principles protecting workers' interests

The Draft Labor Law affirms the principle that all people have the rights to work, to freely choose their jobs and professions, to receive job training, to improve their professional standards, and to be subject to no discrimination because of sex, nationality, social class, faith, and religion. The state strictly forbids all forms of unlawful forced labor and encourages, creates favorable conditions for, and supports all activities aimed at creating jobs for others or for oneself and giving or receiving job training, and all production and business activities and all services attracting large numbers of workers. Workers are persons of at least 15 years of age who are fit for work, have signed labor contracts, and are paid for their services in accordance with their agreement with employers—but not at a lower rate than determined by the state. The workers' right to work in safe, sanitary conditions is ensured. Workers are entitled to leave according to established practices and to annual leave with pay. They may join trade unions, receive collective welfare.... The Labor Law forbids all enticement and all false promises and advertisements aimed at deceiving workers; it also prohibits the use of placement services as a cover for commission of unlawful deeds.

Workers are paid directly, fully, on schedule, and at their work places. If employers are late in paying their employees, they must pay them a compensation based on a rate at least equal to the savings interest rate determined by the state. Workers who are entitled to hourly, daily, or weekly pay must be paid at the end of the working hour, day, or week; if they are entitled to a monthly wage, they must be paid once or twice monthly. Wages must be paid in cash; in case wages are paid in products, payments must be agreed upon between employees and employers on condition that no loss or inconvenience is caused to employees. In case workers work overtime on ordinary days, they are entitled to a compensation equal at least to 150% of their basic hourly wages; if they work overtime on their weekly days off or on holidays, they are entitled to a compensation equal at least to 200% of their basic hourly wages. Concerning the rest system, the Draft Labor Law strictly and specifically stipulates as follows: Workers who work continuously for eight hours are entitled to a break of at least 30 minutes from their working hours to eat. Those who work the night shift are entitled to a midshift break of at least 45 minutes from their working hours. Shift workers are entitled to a rest of at least 12 hours before they begin another shift. Workers are entitled to at least one day off (24 hours) a week; one day off on New Year's Day; one day off on the Lunar New Year's Day; one day off on Victory Day, 30 April; one day off on International Labor Day, 1 May; and one day off on National Day, 2 September. Thus, in addition to their annual leave, their leave of absence, and their weekly days off, workers are entitled to eight holidays per year. But a new provision in the Draft Labor Law is that if any of the eight holidays coincides with a worker's weekly day off, he or she may take the next day as a compensatory day off (current laws do not allow compensatory days off).

With regard to women workers, the Draft Labor Law stipulates that they enjoy equality with male workers in all respects. It also strictly forbids employers from discriminating against women and hurting their dignity, and compels all organizations and individuals employing workers to practice the principle of sex equality in hiring, employing, promoting, and paying workers. The Draft Labor Law prohibits employers from refusing to hire women who are fully qualified for positions for which their enterprises are having vacancies. It forbids employers from dismissing women workers or unilaterally terminating labor contracts with them on the grounds of marriage, pregnancy, maternity leave, or nursing infants under 12 months of age (there have been cases of women workers being dismissed for these reasons; if this stipulation in the Draft Labor Was is adopted by the National Assembly, it will be a legal guarantee of women workers' interests). In addition, the Draft Labor Law prohibits the use of women workers for regular work under the water, under the ground, and in mines; for heavy, strenuous, and dangerous work; or for work requiring contact with toxic substances in which the use of women workers is proscribed by law. The use of women workers who are seven months or more into pregnancy or who are nursing infants under 12 months of age for overtime work or night work or for assignments far from home is forbidden. Women assigned to heavy, strenuous work who are seven months into pregnancy may be reassigned to lighter duties or may work a few hours less but are still entitled to their full pay. During their menstruation, women workers are entitled to a 30-minute rest; when nursing infants under 12 months of age, they may take off 60 minutes a day but are still entitled to full pay. When taking maternity leave, women workers are also entitled to full pay. Enterprises employing women workers must provide them with rooms for changing, showers, toilets....

In addition, the Draft Labor Law also has particular provisions ensuring the interests of juvenile workers (workers under 18 years old); old workers (men over 60 years of age, women over 55 years of age); handicapped workers; workers who are war invalids or sick soldiers; and workers of high specialized skills and technical standards. With regard to workers of high specialized skills and technical standards, the law allows them to hold different jobs or positions concurrently by signing several labor contracts with different organizations or individuals. Even civil servants who have high specialized skills and technical standards have the right to sign labor contracts for work which they are not forbidden from doing by civil servant regulations.

The Draft Labor Law stipulates a social insurance system for workers. If they fall ill or if they are hurt in labor accidents or afflicted with occupational diseases, workers are entitled to allowances. If they die in labor accidents or of occupational diseases, their relatives will receive death compensation. Women workers who have given birth are entitled to maternity allowances. Workers are covered by a retirement system. A burial fee system is applied to people who die while working, who die in retirement, who die while receiving disability allowances, who die in labor accidents, or who die of occupational diseases (their relatives will receive the burial fees).

3. Concerning the right to employ workers and the principles protecting employers' interests

First of all, the Draft Labor Law allows all organizations with juridical status and all individuals 18 years of age or older that are capable of hiring, employing, and paying for labor to sign contracts with workers in order to employ them. Employers have the rights to select, assign, and manage workers according to their production and business requirements. They also have the rights to select workers directly or through placement agencies, to increase or reduce the number of workers according to their production and business requirements, and to employ an unlimited number of workers. Organizations and individuals have the right to open job training schools and classes and to accept apprentices into their workshops and their homes. They are forbidden from doing so only when they use job training, tutoring, and coaching for self-seeking or for exploiting other people's labor power, or when they entice or force job trainees and apprentices into engaging in unlawful activities. Employers have the right to choose various forms of wage payment in remunerating workers: payment according to the time worked (hourly, daily, weekly wages, or monthly wages), according to products, or according to contracts. Employers may apply various forms of disciplinary measures such as reprimand, warning, and transfer to jobs with lower pay for a period of no more than six months. In particular, dismissal as a form of disciplinary action (heretofore called forcible resignation) will be applied to those workers who arbitrarily left their jobs three days in a month or 10 days in a year without legitimate excuse, and to those workers who committed serious mistakes such as theft and embezzlement in their enterprises, divulging technological and business secrets, or other acts causing heavy losses of property and seriously hurting the interests of their enterprises. Employers also have the right to suspend workers when the latter have made mistakes of a complicated nature and investigating the incident would jeopardize the worker's health if allowed to remain on the job. Employers have the right to sign labor contracts with any persons who have high specialized skills and technical standards including civil servants if these civil servants do not fall under the categories of state employees the hiring of whom is forbidden by civil servant regulations. If workers damage work tools and equipment or commit other deeds causing damage to or losses of property, or divulge business secrets, which causes losses, then their employers have the right to request compensation.

4. Concerning the labor contract system

Labor contracts are a very important element in labor laws; they are the basis of labor relations and determine the rights and obligations of employees and employers. The Draft Labor Law stipulates a legal labor contract system comprising three kinds of contracts: labor contract with an indefinite time limit; labor contract with a time limit of one year or longer; and labor contract based on season, crop, or a specific job lasting less than one year. Labor contracts may be in the form of a written document or a verbal agreement which is valid and which obliges employers and employees to abide by labor laws. Whether it is a written or verbal agreement, a labor agreement must contain the following key elements: the work to be done, wages, the work place, the term of contract, labor safety conditions, labor sanitation, and social insurance for workers. Labor contracts may be signed directly between employees and employers or between legal representatives of a group of workers and employers. A worker may sign one or several labor contracts with one or several employers, provided he or she guarantees that these contracts will be fully honored (this is a new stipulation of the labor law; it creates favorable conditions for workers to bring into the fullest play their labor capability). If a job requires a probationary period, employers and employees shall agree on the job to be done and on the probationary period. However, the Draft Labor Law stipulates that the wages applied during the probationary period must be equal at least to 70% of the normal wages for that job and the probationary period must not last more than 30 days.

5. Concerning the roles of trade unions

The Draft Labor Law affirms that trade unions are representatives who protect workers' interests and that when a trade union is founded in accordance with the Trade Union Regulations, employers must recognize it as a legal trade union in their enterprises. Employers must closely cooperate with and create favorable conditions for trade unions to operate according to the Trade Union Law. They may not discriminate against workers because the latter founded or joined trade unions or carry out trade union activities. They may not resort to economic measures and other tricks to interfere in the organization and operations of trade unions. The Draft Labor Law also stipulates that organizations and individuals employing workers have the responsibility to provide necessary means for trade union operations and that workers who do trade union work on a part-time basis may take necessary time off from their work hours—at least three days a month—to perform trade union duties but are still entitled to their full pay. Trade unions have the right to join with state agencies and employers in discussing and resolving issues concerning labor relations; they may take part in settling labor discipline cases; may set up placement, job training, mutual assistance, and legal consultant agencies and public welfare establishments for the benefit of workers; and may participate in labor dispute mediation coucils.

In particular, the Draft Labor Law also stipulates that trade unions have the right to initiate strikes in case of necessity and when such strikes are sanctioned by law.

The Draft Labor Law stipulates that in those places where there are no trade union organizations, worker collectives may elect a representative and this representative is the defender of workers' rights and interests. When trade unions are set up, the trade union executive committees shall replace the workers' representative.

6. The issue of strike

Seen from the democratic and legal angle, striking is a very basic right of workers; for this reason, the Draft Labor Law has been incorporated into the Labor Law a legal procedure concerning strikes. In principle, when efforts to mediate collective labor disputes have failed, the Labor Arbitration Council may decide that the parties concerned have the right to continue negotiations. If negotiations are unsuccessful, either side (employers and employees) have the right to request that the People's Court settle their dispute; *the worker collective in particular have the right to strike*, but if the dispute has been accepted by the court for settlement, the worker collective may not go on strike; if a strike has begun, it must be stopped to let the court settle the dispute. A decision to strike must be made by the trade union or the worker collective concerned and must be approved by more than one half of the worker collective (a secret voting or signature collection must be organized). Before going on strike, the worker collective must give the employer a request for strike. Participants in a legal strike still retain their jobs but will not be paid during the strike. Those who do not take part in the strike have to right to work as usual; if they are prevented from doing their jobs by a strike, they are still entitled to a wage not lower than the minimum wage. The Draft Labor Law prohibits strikes in public service enterprises and a number of enterprises essential to the national economy or national security and defense. If it is deemed that a strike seriously endangers the national economy or public security, the prime minister of the government is empowered to order that it be postponed or stopped and to request that the court settle the dispute. In special situations, for the sake of national interests the president of the country is empowered to put a ban on strikes. To ensure the proper character and meaning of strikes, the Draft Labor Law stipulates circumstances in which strikes are considered unlawful, namely: strikes that do not stem from collective labor disputes and strikes that transgress the limits of labor relations or the bounds of the enterprises concerned. The Draft Labor Law also strictly forbids all acts of violence; all acts that damage machinery, equipment, and property of enterprises; and all acts that violate public order and security during a strike. Leaders of a strike ruled unlawful by the court will be subject to administrative penalties or prosecuted; participants in unlawful strikes are subject to labor disciplinary actions including dismissal.

7. The issue of state management of labor

The Draft Labor Law anticipates incorporating into the Labor Law a system of state management measures regarding labor in conformity with the purposes of the Labor Law, namely defending workers, protecting employers, developing correct labor relations suitable for the need to build socialism and for the national traditions. Included in the various measures of state management concerning labor is the Draft Labor Law stipulation that, within 30 days after an enterprise begins operation, the employer must declare and report his plan for employment of workers. An enterprise employing 10 or more workers must establish a worker roster, a wage payment record, and a social insurance record, and must keep these documents for at least three years. Each worker must be issued with a worker's book, a pay book, and a social insurance book.

In the foregoing we have only presented an outline of some points in the Draft Labor Law directly relating to workers and their employers. The draft is being widely subject to comments by the people of all strata. All of us have the right to make personal suggestions on all issues and all stipulations in the draft to make it complete, comprehensive, and consistent with the aspirations of both workers and their employers.

* Applying Social Science to Military Domain

942E0074A Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese May 94 pp 35-37

[Statement by Lieutenant General Professor Tran Xuan Truong: "Social Science and Humanity Knowledge and Intellectuals in the Military Domain"—at the Conference on Intellectuals in the Army held by the Ministry of National Defense and the Science and Education Department of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee in February 1994]

[Text] The current transitional period in our country is breeding an intelligentsia with a physiognomy that is not quite similar to that of the intellectuals in the old days in many points. On the one hand, this intelligentsia has continued to be an increasingly larger and stronger bloc of national intellectuals, the product of Vietnamese patriotism, of the war for national liberation, and of the transition to socialism. On the other, the state of mind of this bloc of intellectuals has inevitably undergone changes that reflect the complex class struggle and national struggle in the period of transition to socialism in our country, in a world where world socialism has suffered a temporary setback and the revolutionary road is strewn with new difficulties.

The modern Vietnamese intelligentsia is a fundamental force of the Vietnamese revolution; together with the working class and the peasantry, it plays the decisive role in the cause of national construction and defense. However, it is necessary to foresee that the bitter, complex social struggle in our country as well as in the world arena will inevitably cause political vacillations at one time or another in one or another section of this intelligentsia. Therefore, the party's policy on and attitude toward the intellectuals must be magnanimous, open-minded, and free of prejudices and narrow-mindedness; but, at the same time they must be strict and sincere, must clearly point out what is right and what is wrong, and must not be one-sidedly complimentary and laudatory. It is necessary to respect and strongly develop the intellectuals' role in all fields of activities and, at the same time, to frankly criticize all manifestations of political vacillation in certain sections of the intelligentsia.

At present, it is true that a number of naive intellectuals believe in the correctness of the demand that the Communist Party hand the national leadership over to wisdom, the personification of which is the intellectuals. However, in history, from the scholar in former times to the learned man of today, intellectuals, with their intellectual activities and within their narrow field of specialty determined by the division of social labor, have only been capable of serving one or another political leadership. This is because the intelligentsia itself, owing to the nature of its activities, cannot assume the role of political leadership. Intellectuals can become political leaders only when they switch to political activities. Recently, in our country a number of intellectuals made political statements, criticizing Marxism-Leninism and our party's political platform and presenting the outlines of some of their political programs. These intellectuals have thus left their domain of specialty and shifted to political activities. With such statements, the demand that the Communist Party hand leadership over to the intelligentsia has essentially become a demand for the handover of leadership to another political party and another political line. Against the current political background of our country as well as of the world, the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], despite its weaknesses, which should be quickly overcome, is still the only party capable of leading the country in firmly defending its national independence and taking the people onto the road to development, well-being, and happiness. We should frankly and persistently persuade the intelligentsia to clearly understand that fact. We should ask the intellectuals to refrain from confining themselves to their specialties in their intellectual activities, to show political awareness, and to participate in political struggle; but they must choose a political attitude and only one. They must voluntarily realize that only the CPV's politics is capable of joining the entire people in seizing opportunities, surmounting challenges, and successfully building and defending the country.

In the history of Vietnamese civilization and wisdom, military knowledge has been an outstanding achievement. This was true in the far remote past and still holds true today. Without wisdom, our nation could not have defeated U.S. imperialism. But it is a fact that while we have a great deal of practical experience in fighting against aggressors, we still have few theoretical works of high scientific quality that profoundly sum up those military realities. This gap between practical activities and theoretical development is due in part to the prolonged wars, which forced us to concentrate on the immediate combat duties; but it is also partly attributable to the subjective shortcomings in our work in the field of military science. To bridge this gap, we must invest labor and must build at all costs a strong contingent of military science theoreticians. For this reason, in the Political Bureau Resolution on the issue of intellectuals, we propose that an adequate portion be set aside for the question of military knowledge and military intellectuals and that military knowledge and military intellectuals be considered a highly valuable asset of the nation—highly valuable both today and in the future.

In the building and combat activities of the armed forces, there has arisen the need to apply the knowledge of social sciences and humanities to the military domain. In fact, the notion about the necessity of these sciences in the armed forces' building and combat activities has also taken shape gradually. At first, during the anti-French war of resistance, our activities in social sciences and the humanities were still in their infancy and not separated from propaganda and training work. After peace was restored in north Vietnam, the situation permitted and, at the same time, required specializing a section of propaganda and training cadres to carry out in-depth research on and to teach some branches of social sciences and the humanities, in particular Marxism-Leninism, the party's history, and political work. The Army then embarked on the anti-U.S. war of resistance. For a long period of time, despite the introduction of some new courses such as psychology and military education, the development of these sciences essentially stopped there. To date, the contingent of social science and humanity intellectuals in the Army has remained chiefly a contingent of teachers of those courses and teaching has been their principal duty.

Only since the late 1980's has the urgent need to strongly develop social sciences and the humanities in the military field become apparent. There has arisen the notion of a modern structure of Vietnamese military science composed of some basic elements: military science and art, social sciences and the humanities in the military, and military science and technology.

New historical conditions are now demanding that the political development of the armed forces be strengthened more vigorously than ever before. While past traditions should be highly respected, this development should not stop at the level of empiricism but must be based on a scientific knowledge of society and man. Against an extremely complex international and domestic background, the situation of struggle in national construction and defense demands that Army leaders and commanders at all levels have a thorough knowledge of their subordinates and know how to approach people, penetrate their hearts, and convince and conquer them.

Today, to build an Army that is strong politically, in the military we must absolutely have a contingent of intellectuals trained in social sciences and the humanities. This contingent must represent a great leap forward in quality compared with the past and current contingents. It must also be large numerically, uniform and balanced in terms of professional structure, capable of taking over the task of training and improving the contingent of Army officers to make them increasingly better, and also be capable of assuming the duty of conducting scientific research to effectively support the party's leadership and the direction of the Ministry of National Defense and the General Political Department. The Army's current contingent of intellectuals trained in social sciences and the humanities is inadequate and cannot meet the demands of the situation.

What should we do to bridge the gap between requirements and the actual state of the Army's contingent of intellectuals trained in social sciences and the humanities? We must work out bold situational solutions and basic solutions necessary for the formulation of a long-term strategic plan. In the immediate future, we should be determined to mobilize a large force of cadres in the school system, in the entire Army, and even outside the Army, for training and improvement in several effective forms. This is to rapidly form a contingent with a sufficient number of cadres and with a relatively uniform structure. We must create a relatively young and prestigious leading force at the national level capable of guiding the entire contingent. In the long run, we should work our a basic plan based on the creation of abundant and steady manpower sources, adopt policies aimed at attracting and encouraging talents, and formulate plans to train talents in a more fundamental manner and on a longer-term basis. We should work in such a way as to enable our Army, when it enters the 21st century, to build, through the process of expanded reproduction, a large, balanced contingent of social science and humanity cadres who are equipped with a higher level of scientific standard and prestige, capable of firmly preserving traditions, politically steadfast, and loyal to Marxism-Leninism, to the socialist regime, and to the Communist Party, which the preceding generations of social science and humanity cadres have created.

* Worker Class Faces New Opportunity, Challenge

942E0077 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese May 94 pp 22-26

[Article by Xuan Cang of Research-Theoretical Information Center, Vietnam General Federation of Labor Unions: Vietnamese Worker Class Faces New Challenge"]

[Text] The mid-term nationwide conference recently convened by the party made an extremely important decision: The party and our people as a whole must vigorously act to speed up moving the economic structure in the direction of industrializing and modernizing the country. This is a need that arises from the objective realities of the renovation of our country and is aimed at making sure that our country does not lag more and more behind the developed countries in the region.

Going hand in hand with moving the economic structure is our preparing the source of manpower needed for national industrialization and modernization, with the major force in it being the worker class. This is a new opportunity and at the same time a new challenge, a great challenge for the Vietnamese worker class. The challenge lies in the fact that we must prepare for a source of power for the worker class to make it capable of playing a leading role in the market economy going in the fixed socialist direction and must quickly incorporate modern industry into our country. In the meantime, to build the worker class to allow it to satisfy the new needs starts from a very low departure point.

First of all, we have to assert the source of manpower. According to a scientific definition accepted by many researchers, the worker class is a social community of working people who are employed, receive wages, and live and work in close association with production, business, and industrial services activities; because it keeps and controls the key material production installations and represents the progressive productive force of society as a whole, it necessarily plays the role of being the vanguard force in the historical processes of modern society.

According to this definition, today our country's worker class numbers 5-6 million people; although it accounts for only 14 percent of the social labor and 8 percent of the population, it is keeping and controlling such sectors as heavy industry, light industry, construction, communications and transportation, post and telecommunications, and commerce, and providing materials and other important services, which make up the backbone and nervous system of the national economy. The industrial production sectors alone account for 7 percent of the social labor; in 1993, the products made by these sectors accounted for 22.7 percent of all products made in the country and contributed 25 percent of the state budget.

Beside the worker class there are more than 2 million working people in such sectors as science and technology, education, public health, social culture, and public service, who are members of the labor unions within the General Federation, as General Secretary Do Muoi pointed out at the 7th Congress of the Vietnam General Federation of Labor Unions. So today, it is high time we clearly determine that not every component of labor working and receiving wages belongs to the worker class. This is but the first characteristic. The second characteristic is that they live and work in close association with production, business, and industrial services activities. This concept gives us a sufficient and correct understanding to determine what source of manpower will be the main force that shoulders the country's industrialization and plays the role of vanguard in the country's modernization, as well as its role in society and in the development of modern history.

In an article in TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN (in February 1993), we had an opportunity to mention the changes in the social structure and the actual situation of the worker class in the market economy. Now we would like to add and clarify some more, by using the data resulting from the newest study of the worker class. These data will help us to recognize the strong and weak points and what is being developed and is existing, which create the worker class's historic challenges in the new stage of the country's renovation. Young workers currently account for 60 percent of the total. Workers in the state sector are decreasing quickly, with about 1.67 million of them in the material production bloc. Through a rearrangement of production and redeployment of labor, there are about 700,000 people who have left the assembly lines, moved to other economic components, or ceased to work.

Workers in the cooperative, private, and free-occupations sector are increasing quickly, with currently about 3.64 million people in such sectors as industry, construction, communications and transportation, and other production sectors—an important component of the above labor force—having moved from the state enterprise sector (in 1992, about 25 percent of the increase of the labor force in this sector consisted of state enterprise workers). In the joint-enterprise bloc having capital from foreign investment, there are more than 45,000 jobs and hundreds of thousands of capital construction workers are being attracted to it.

About the make-up of sectors and occupations. Beside the sectors and occupations that used to be considered the key ones (engineering, metallurgy, coal, and so on) and are encountering difficulties in terms of industrial, outgoing-end, cost, and other matters, these sectors and occupations have emerged as the spearheading ones: oil and gas, post and communications, shipping, aviation, computer science, electronics, and so on; many services that have undergone multifaceted development (finance, banking, technology transfer, and so on) play an important role in industrial development.

The body of national defense workers, consisting of hundreds of thousands of law-abiding people and holding an important industrial component, is a strong force in the Vietnamese worker class.

(Noteworthy is the fact that 290,000 youths had in the past worked as cooperation labor in foreign countries, where they had favorable conditions for improving their knowledge, skills, and industrial training, and that more than 200,000 of them have returned home, but the majority of them remains unused and still waits to be incorporated in the domestic work force.)

The market mechanism also creates a regular movement among workers in regard to locations, occupations, sex, and age; there appears a division of strata in the worker class in terms of income; an intellectual group in the worker class has developed itself. Labor disputes between workers and managers have taken place. In the last 4 years, there were more than 70 cases of collective reaction of working people in the form of strikes, walkouts, and demands for holding dialogue with management. Strikes took place in both state enterprise and joint enterprise sectors; recently they have taken place mainly in the joint enterprise sector.

About quality of the worker class. The majority of Vietnamese workers and working people supports the party line on renovation, agrees on the abolition of centralized management and state subsidies, and supports the reorganization of production and redeployment of labor in state-operated enterprises, even though the issue of employment is known as the greatest challenge for each and every one of them.

Continuing to develop revolutionary traditions and dynamic creativity, a component of the worker class has shown that it is capable of quickly adjusting to the market mechanism, leading a number of state-operated enterprises toward overcoming challenges and creating favorable conditions for development, having access to modern industry, helping to turn a number of sectors and occupations into spearheads in the economy, reforming and building many infrastructural installations and new projects, and cooperating with management to open and develop many new business installations. These achievements have contributed to quickly changing the face of the country and at the same time proving the worker class's qualitative improvement.

At present, 67.2 percent of workers have educational background of general middle school and vocational middle school levels and higher; 65.8 percent have occupational skills of level 4/7 and above. A group of workers, particularly young workers, are overcoming difficulties in studying by themselves, undergoing training to raise their knowledge, learning foreign languages and new industrial skills, learning by visual aid, emulating one another to make the country rich, and at the same time improving their own living conditions. Many people have become new businessmen. Many foreign businessmen evaluate our country's workers by saying they are intelligent and can quickly adapt to modern industry.

Those are the strong aspects in the quality of our worker class. However, in the new situation, the weaknesses that long existed have clearly revealed themselves.

The large majority (70 percent) of our country's workers comes from farmers' background and, under the conditions of a backward agriculture, carries the remnants of a small-scale production: They do things at their convenience, lack cohesion, and are divided, while modern industry requires organizing capabilities, discipline, and a very high degree of urgency.

For a rather long time, the mechanism of centralized management and planning and state subsidies had turned a large number of workers away from the commodity economy and profit-and-loss accounting, with competition going hand in hand with cooperation. Because we had maintained too long the policy of paying average wages and a number of irrational social policies, our workers had been deprived of the motivations behind being creative and active. Since then have appeared in a segment of our worker population long-lasting negative phenomena, such as leaning on others, depending on others, stealing public properties, violating the law, and so on.

The development of a body of industrial workers in our country has been linked with the low regional industrial level compared to that of the world. In the last several years, the industries that had been brought into our country (metallurgy involving ferrous metals, manufacturing of machines, textile, and so on) were mostly at the level of the early period of this century. Consequently, with backward technical equipment, with poor industrial behavior, our technical cadres and skilled workers showed an even greater degree of weakness when they came into contact with modern industry and industrial civilization in the period close to the end of this century. Productivity, quality, and economic efficiency remained low. The part produced by machinery accounted for only 35 percent of the GNP. Mechanization in industry accounted for about 45-50 percent. Only about 10 percent of the machinery used in the entire country was considered modern. The annual rate of getting new equipment was only 7 percent in the recent years.

For many reasons, a state of decadence has taken place in a segment of the worker population in terms of the sense of social class, morality, and culture. Pragmatism has prevailed. In the social life of workers, serious social ills (prostitution, opium addiction, gambling, superstition, and so on) have occurred. The faith in the party, in socialism has declined.

On the basis of the above-mentioned facts, we can arrive at the following general observation:

In more than half a century, the Vietnamese worker class, through its vanguard party, had become a leading force and an important moving power behind the Vietnamese revolution and, along with people of all Vietnamese ethnic groups, had been conducting a long struggle full of sacrifice and hardship for the fatherland's independence and freedom. Continuing to display this tradition in the renovation, the worker class has overcome great challenges and has made important contributions in many socioeconomic fields and to consolidating national defense and maintaining political stability, and is leading the way in the country's renovation.

In the initial phase of the switch to the multicomponent economy based on the market mechanism, the worker class is now in the process of undergoing changes and moving in terms of social structure and integration into the community of economic components, with its own force being mixed and multifaceted. Although some aspects of the workers' living standard have been improved, generally speaking this standard remains at a low level compared to that of society as a whole and is unstable. The fact that the work environment is bad and work conditions are poor has serious effects on the health of people, mostly of female workers. A group of workers (mainly in the state sector) do not have jobs after they have left the production assembly lines. Another group has become decadent, which is against the nature of the worker class. Still another group has quickly adapted to the market mechanism and has had access to modern industry, but generally speaking, their knowledge, occupational skills, professional capacity, industrial scientific background, and ability to learn with visual aid are at a low level.

The legitimate aspirations of the majority of workers and working people today are to see the country enjoy political stability, the social economy emerge from its current crisis, and the worker class—the major force that will achieve the country's industrialization and modernization—be under favorable conditions to further develop its tradition and potential. The immediate goals are to have jobs, to have income that is enough to live on and is commensurate with the value of the labor involved, and for the state to get rid of bureaucracy and corruption.

To let the worker class develop its potential, the party must resolve many basic and urgent problems; the worker class itself must make tremendous efforts.

The industrialization and modernization of the country create for the worker class very great needs.

Being the major force that carries out industrialization and modernization, the worker class must have a high level of general educational background, which provides a large number of workers with an ability to have access to industries in electronics, computer science, and modern biology, and to get involved in production, business, and services activities requiring very high levels of specialization, automation, and chemicalization. The percentage of people having general educational background (including occupational skills), with the teaching and training methods being around for a long time, has only a very limited significance for the new needs mentioned earlier.

We must have a definite cultural (not educational) background, first of all a background in labor culture, production culture, management culture, and so on, so as to allow a large number of workers to quickly integrate themselves into modern industry. This culture first of all is reflected in the working people's behavior: their sense of urgency and activity; their ability to organize and discipline; their liking for creativity, and so on. This culture cannot be had through training; it can only be shaped and formed in the reality of one's life.

We must have a definite level of health so as to allow a large number of workers to respond to the great need for physical strength used in modern industry, which requires endurance, sound nerves, quick reaction to speed.

As for all of these needs, we can say that our country's worker class is being at a very low starting point. The problem to be solved here is how to build the worker class in the present situation so as to allow it to satisfy the need for speeding up our moving the economic structure in the direction of industrializing and modernizing the country, and at the same time how to prepare for a new generation of workers capable of responding to new needs. On the other hand, the question being raised is about the fact that we can build the worker class only during the process of industrialization and modernization. And in the industrialization strategy, when we plan for the rate of progress and scope, we must take into consideration the human factor. We must take into consideration the price to be paid due to the fact that the human factor is not yet ready.

Along with the process of industrialization and modernization, the worker class as a whole will quickly develop quantitatively and in terms of multifaceted sectors and occupations. Working within the market mechanism, and at the same time having the transfer of modern industry into our country, a large number of workers will not be able to avoid the law of selection and elimination, which leads to a more serious occurrence—the loss of their jobs. Labor disputes and contradictions between workers and management will increase and, in some localities and sometimes, will get more bitter.

In the face of the real situation and the forecast one, we need to raise the question of building the worker class in the new situation in accordance with the following guidelines:

First of all, the party and state must adopt many realistic solutions to bring the worker class away from the poor working conditions, living conditions, and living standard that all exist today.

We must renew and expand the policies aimed at providing the worker class with material and spiritual motivations: the social security policies, such as the ones that solve the job problem; provide unemployment subsidies, social security benefits, and labor protection; and lead to labor contracts and labor dispute solutions. Other policies of social encouragement include the ones that turn a portion of the state-operated business into public enterprise through sales of shares, regulate income, raise the level of cultural and artistic enjoyment in favor of workers, encourage family-based economy and industry, and so on.

We must totally renew the policies of training and retraining, aimed at raising the quality of labor and creating favorable conditions for workers to find jobs and to have access to modern industry. We must have policies to encourage socializing training and retraining.

We must strongly renovate the organization of labor union activities along the line of heightening the role of labor unions in various sectors and occupations and unionizing and socializing labor union activities. We must retrain labor union cadres and build a new class of labor union cadres who truly are social workers and leaders of the masses and have the capacity and capabilities to represent and protect the interests of workers and working people.

On the basis of the transfer of modern industry into our country, we must on our own initiative build within the worker class a cultural foundation, which consists first of all of the production culture, management culture, labor culture, and sectors and occupations culture, and then of human culture and family culture. The characteristics of this cultural foundation are modern in their nature and create a favorable environment for bringing modern industry into our country; at the same time, they are national in character, give all activities of the Vietnamese worker class a Vietnamese color and a peculiar worker-class identity, and create a favorable environment for creatively selecting and adapting modern industry to Vietnam's realities.

Thus the challenge for our country's worker class is very great, but the opportunity is also very great and is being close to our reach. To attach importance to the human factor, to attach correct importance to the factor involving the class community beside other social communities (based on ethnic groups, religions, sex, age groups, and so on), to strengthen scientific research, and to have a realistic review in regard to the worker class can help us to shed light on what needs to be done and on where to begin in order to build the worker class in the new situation.

Australia

KR Threatens To Kill Citizens of Nations

BK0808015094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0100 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] In Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge [KR] guerrilla faction has threatened to kill captive foreigners from countries which may provide military support to the Cambodian Government. It is the first direct threat against Australians as delicate negotiations continued for the release of a Melbourne man, David Wilson, who has been held by guerrillas in southern Cambodia. Evan Williams reports from Phnom Penh:

[Begin Williams recording] Khmer Rouge radio says guerrillas will kill Australians, Americans, and French if those countries wage a war to kill Cambodians. It is the first direct threat against nationals from countries considering and now providing some form of military support to the beleagured the government army. If you play with fire your head will be burned, it says.

Officials do not believe the broadcast will affect delicate negotiations for the release of David Wilson and two foreigners still being held for ransom by guerrillas in the country's south. But it adds a new danger to travel for Westerners in already insecure countryside. [end recording]

Three Westerners Kidnapped by KR 'Still Alive'

BK0308063994 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Cambodian authorities say they have received photographs and a tape recording indicating the three westerners kidnapped by Khmer Rouge [KR] guerrillas are still alive. Sue Downie reports the government has been given a photo and a tape recording of the three, who have been held 130 kilometers southwest of the capital, Phnom Penh.

[Begin Downie recording] A messenger sent into the Khmer Rouge jungle base where the hostages are being held returned last night with photographs of the three men, including David Wilson of Melbourne. Information Minister Ieng Muli said the messenger also brought out a cassette tape from Wilson, a Briton, and a Frenchman being held with him. It's still not clear exactly what the guerrillas want in exchange for the release of the three western men. But, earlier they had asked for 100 damlung [Cambodian weight for gold] or $50,000, which could be given in gold, dollars, baht, or rice equivalent. [End recording]

Indonesian Navy To Join in Joint Exercise

BK0508051294 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0100 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Two Indonesian Navy patrol boats have arrived in Darwin to prepare for a joint patrol with the Australian forces. The Indonesian vessels will join two Australian boats for a voyage to Kupang in West Timor and to practise maritime surveillance procedures. An Australian Air Force Orion aircraft and an Indonesian maritime patrol plane will also take part in the exercise.

Details Sought on Indonesian Arms Proposal

BK0608101894 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0900 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Australia's federal opposition has called for more details on a proposal for Australia to develop a joint arms manufacturing capacity with Indonesia. The defense minister, Robert Ray, has confirmed that negotiations with Indonesia on the proposal will continue. The call for more details has been made by the opposition spokesman on defense, Peter Reith.

[Begin recording] [Reith] Calling out this time [words indistinct] there may have been some discussions. If there have been discussions, let's hear from the ministry exactly as to the nature of those discussions. In principle, depending on the details, we wouldn't necessarily have any problems, but we would like to know more before we committed ourselves. [end recording]

Speaking in Townsville in Queensland, where he saw off an advance party of Australian troops for Rwanda, Senator Ray said the arms proposal was a matter of economics.

[Begin recording] [Ray]) It is nothing radical. We're not a big arms supplier to Indonesia but what will happen in this region is what's happened in Europe, that is, too expensive to do it by yourself. [end recording]

Groups Express Concern

BK0708090694 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 7 Aug 94

[Text] A minor political party, the Australian Democrats, is angry over a proposal for Australia to jointly manufacture arms with Indonesia. Bob Robinson reports the party says human rights abuses in Indonesia should prompt second thoughts about the proposed deal.

[Begin recording] [Robinson] Speaking in Townsville yesterday, Defense Minister Senator Robert Ray confirmed that negotiations were continuing with Indonesia over the possibility of setting up joint arms manufacturing as a way of reducing cost for both countries. He pointed to a similar deal with New Zealand but said the proposal with Indonesia is in its very early stages; but the democrats say they're surprised by the announcement and believed the government should think very carefully before entering into a military arrangement with a known human rights abuser. Spokeswoman Senator (Vicky Bourne) says the arms may not be used for defense.

[Borne] The people are more likely to use the equipment against their own people than they are in defending themselves against the outside aggressor. [end recording]

Meanwhile, a group based in Adelaide, South Australia, the Campaign for an Independent East Timor, has called on Senator Ray to cease all negotiations with Indonesia over the joint arms proposal. The group's chairman, Andrew Alcock, says Australia must not cooperate with the country with the record of human rights violations in East Timor.

'Strong Warning' Issued to PRC on Businessman

BK0508071894 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Gareth Evans has confirmed he has delivered a strong warning to China over the treatment of a Chinese Australian businessman facing embezzlement charges. Thirty-five-year-old James Peng has been detained in China for the past 10 months. Senator Evans says he wrote to his Chinese counterpart in June cautioning that harsh treatment of Mr. Peng would risk an adverse impact on relations between China and Australia. He raised the case again earlier this week with the Chinese vice foreign minister at the South Pacific Forum in Brisbane.

According to official Chinese news reports, charges were finally brought against Mr. Peng yesterday. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Australia says it doesn't believe the James Peng case will have any bearing on bilateral ties. Chamber President Robert Howe says he is confident the case will not have any adverse effect or economic implications. Mr. Howe says those found guilty of offenses should be brought to justice.

Digital Exchanges To Be Exported to PRC

BK0908101294 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW in English 22 Jul 94 p 13

[Article by Helen Meredith: "Australian-Built Phone Exchanges for China"—all dollar figures in Australian dollars]

[Text] Digital phone exchange built in Sydney will be shipped into China following a $5 million deal between Alcatel Australia and China's telecommunications authorities.

The System 12 exchanges, made at Alcatel's Liverpool plant outside Sydney, would be installed in the autonomous regions of Tibet and Ningxia, as well as the province of Gansu, the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology Senator Cook, said yesterday.

The new Chinese contracts will be financed by the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB) and the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC).

Alcatel's exports from Australia to China now total more than $100 million.

Contracts last year included System 12 orders for the Chinese provinces of Qinghai and Heilongjiang.

The group also has orders for optical-fibre undersea cable systems linking Thailand, Vietnam and Hong Kong, as well as China and Korea.

It is also supplying residential and business phones to Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea, Belgium and New Zealand.

Alcatel officials said manufacture of the new exchanges would get under way in September at Liverpool.

Chinese technicians would receive their training from Alcatel Australia in both countries.

A 30,000 phone-line exchange for Tibet's capital, Lhasa, will quadruple the city's capacity.

Senator Cook said Alcatel Australia was a fine example of how locally based multinational companies could contribute substantially to the Australian economy.

"Its export success confirms the ability of our manufacturers to compete and win in the region's toughest markets," he said.

Island Leaders Urged To End Resource Misuse

BK3107133294 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 31 Jul 94

[Text] Australia's prime minister, Paul Keating, has called on South Pacific nations to stop the unsustainable exploitation of their forests and marine resources. Alexandra Kirk reports that the call was made shortly before Mr. Keating officially opened the 25th South Pacific Forum meeting in Brisbane.

[Begin recording] [Kirk] Mr. Keating says the forum is one of the last chances the South Pacific will have to address unsustainable logging of tropical forests and exploitation of tuna fisheries. The prime minister, who is hosting the forum, says Australia has had to make some hard adjustments and a similar task now lies ahead for island nations. While some Pacific leaders say that adjustment requires extra financial assistance from Australia, Mr. Keating appears reluctant.

[Keating] No, I don't think we are asking countries much than to keep an aye on the sustainability of their own resources; I mean, to not make that point is to say we'll let resources get to the point where they are unsustainable and then where do they go then? [end recording]

In a television interview earlier today, Australia's minister for Pacific Island Affairs, Gordon Bilney, also called on island governments to stop the exploitation of their natural resources and warned that Australia might switch its aid priorities. As an example of poor management, Mr. Bilney said the world market price for logs was $350 [Australian dollars] a cubic meter, but one island contract was worth less than $3 a cubic meter. Mr. Bilney also said there'd been too little united action against foreign fishing companies whose activities were now threatening the long-term ocean resources of the South

Pacific. Mr. Bilney added that now he was reluctant to make aid conditional on good management policies, Australia might shift its aid priorities to Pacific states which emphasized employment issues, and population control.

Keating 'Very Concerned' About Logging

BK2807151294 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 28 Jul 94

[Text] Australia says it wants the South Pacific Forum meeting in Brisbane to set the stage for the next 25 years of the forum. A senior Australian official in Canberra said that because Brisbane would be the 25th forum meeting, it was a proper time to set future directions.

He said Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating wanted to give control of the forum back to the leaders. The official said that spending a whole day at the forum leaders retreat meant the emphasis would be on discussions at the top and not on statements precooked by officials.

The official added that Mr. Keating was very concerned at the unsustainable logging taking place in Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands. He said Australia's prime minister believed decisions had to be taken now or tropical forests, which could sustain tourism, would be lost forever.

The forum, involving 15 South Pacific states, will open in Brisbane on Sunday.

Government Stand on Interest Rates Reaffirmed

BK0508051094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0100 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] The value of the Australian dollar has risen after comments from Treasurer Ralph Willis reaffirming the government's stance on interest rates. Adrian Thirsk reports American investors have pushed the local currency up two thirds of a cent to 73.73 U.S. cents.

[Begin recording] [Thirsk] The strength of buying support for the Australian dollar from New York this morning has taken some local currency dealers by surprise. Treasurer Willis' comments after a Sydney dinner last night contained nothing new on official interest rates.

[Willis] As we get stronger into recovery they will become less appropriate and at some stage will have to be increased if we are going to maintain a low inflation outlook. [end recording]

But Citibank dealer Bob Turner says he had been fielding a lot of calls from U.S. investment houses during the night.

[Turner] Even though this is old news to the local market here, they—especially investment banks in New York—seem to have taken it a bit seriously this time and decided that perhaps the market was short and they started to come into the market and buy quite substantial amounts. [end recording]

New Figures Show Retail Trade Falls in Jun

BK0308065894 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] The fragility of consumer confidence in Australia has shown up in the release of new figures on retail activity in the country. As Adrian First reports retail turnover in Australia in June drop off slightly.

[Begin First recording] With $8.62 billion going through the tills of the nation's retailers during the month, the fall has been recorded at one tenth of a percent seasonally adjusted. Forecast has centered on a rise of half a percent. On a trend basis retail turnover is still expanding but that growth has continued to slow since the peak last Christmas. The strongest performance is coming from department stores, hotels, electrical stores, and grocers. Other food stores and clothing shops are showing the greatest decline. Meanwhile, the quarterly figure of real retail trade going into the next measure of GDP or economic growth will be negative, down 0.2 of a percent. [End recording]

Australians Fear Loss of GATT Benefits

MM2907120294 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 29 Jul 94 p 24

[Report by Nikki Tait: "Big Gatt 'Winners' on the Look-Out for Backsliding"]

[Text] Australia's farm sector has been touted as one of the big winners from the settlement of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. For many products, the country is an efficient, low-cost producer. It would, therefore, seem a natural beneficiary of freer trade.

To hear local farmers talk, however, no one would believe it. They have already seen some of the 1992 Blair House provisions pared back. Now the fear is that more dissipation will follow during the long period leading up to the full implementation of the Uruguay Round settlement.

Potential environmental obligations, which reflect Europe's confined habitat and are less applicable to Australia's vast expanses, or manipulation of base levels from which subsidy reductions will be calculated are just some of the issues cited.

"It's all very nice, what's happened—but now we've got to watch how it's executed," says Mr Bob Lawrence, at the New South Wales Farmers' Association.

Mr Graham Barron, a grainfarmer from Ungarie, is even blunter. "The spirit of Gatt should be adopted immediately, yet stocks are being dumped, even now, by the US and Europe" he alleges. "The lead-in will be bumpy and we're not going to get immediate remedies."

The much-cited headline figure for the benefit of the Gatt agreement to Australia's farm sector is a A$900m-A$1bn boost to annual agricultural exports. Set alongside total rural exports, excluding processed food, of A$9.72bn in 1992/3, this is plainly an impressive number.

It should be treated with some caution, however. The estimate comes from two separate econometric models, employed by the Australian Bureau of Resource Economics, a government forecasting agency, and by the Industry Commission, the statutory authority that advises federal government on assistance to the private sector.

In both cases, the A$1bn figure applies only when the provisions of the Uruguay Round are fully implemented—that is, after 2001. Moreover, while the models differ in their general scope, both look only at the "marginal" change to exports at current farm prices. They do not attempt to estimate what the value of additional exports will be at prices ruling in the year 2002, what new competition might enter the market, and so on.

These caveats aside, the models anticipate that the gains will come from three sources. First, there will be a reduction in subsidised exports from the US and European Union. Secondly, there is the promise of improved access to markets which are protected at present. Thirdly, the requirement that domestic support funds—that is, government funds which are used to subsidise farm production and incomes—be cut by a fifth should also help to address the problem of overproduction. That, at the very least, should stabilise world prices generally, and could push them higher.

According to the Abare model, all sectors of the Australian farm sector stand to get some benefit. But the gains will not be spread evenly. In absolute terms, the biggest winner is the beef industry, where producers can expect to receive a A$340m annual export boost by the end of the six-year implementation period. Next comes the wheat industry, which should see a further A$250m-worth of exports. The dairy industry is forecast to enjoy a A$125m benefit; coarse grains, A$90m; sugar, A$40m; rice, A$25m; and sheepmeat, perhaps A$20m.

Not surprisingly, Australian politicians crowed when the deal was finally struck on December 15. Mr Paul Keating, the prime minister, said his country would benefit from "enhanced market access and more predictable market conditions". Trade officials, meanwhile, sighed with particular relief when the European Union reaffirmed the Andriessen Assurance, an undertaking given by the former European Community agriculture commissioner, Mr Frans Andriessen, that the EC (now known as the EU [European Union]) would not export subsidised beef to North Asian markets of considerable value to Australia.

In large part, farmers' representatives agreed: "Improvements in market access will deliver considerable gains to farmers," commented Mr Graham Blight, president of the National Farmers Federation. Even on December 15, however, reaction from the farming sector was less than euphoric, with negotiators expressing concerns over some of the last-minute additions to the deal.

Mr Philip Eliason, then deputy director of the National Farmers Federation and closely involved with the Gatt talks, says that haggling over the timing and starting-dates for adjustments to export subsidies, and the extension of the period during which the so-called "peace-clause" could protect subsidisers from Gatt action, were both big negatives.

"These were elements which will set back the delivery date of benefits to the Australian farming sector," he comments.

At farm level, reaction to the Gatt deal has been even more equivocal, and varies significantly according to the type of agriculture involved. Even cattle farmers are cautious. Mr Frank Austin, a cattle-producer from Adelong, who has some 400 breeding cows on a 1,400-hectare property, acknowledges that his industry will see some real gain from the enhanced market access but thinks that Australian farmers will have their work cut out trying to maximise the opportunities.

"I see the agreement as an advantage. It's formalised the Andriessen Assurance, which was previously only a verbal agreement, and we will get increased access to the US. I guess the rationalisation of production in Europe will also reduce the pressure worldwide," he says.

"But there still needs to be a very serious emphasis on quality in Australia, and we need to reduce processing costs. We need to address freight and non-farm costs. We need to look at the international marketplace and be aware of what we're producing and for whom. We must be far more targeted."

Already, he worries that Australian farmers are losing out to their New Zealand counterparts.

For grain-farmers, like Mr Barron, the agreement is also a plus, but falls way short of aspirations.

"A few years ago, we had really low commodity prices for nearly all grains, and most farmers were in a very tight financial situation. Gatt was seen as a light at the end of the tunnel," he says.

Since the Blair House accord, however, "the watering down and delayed start makes it a step in the right direction, but not a windfall". Like his counterparts in the cattle sector Mr Barron thinks that Australian farmers will need to concentrate on quality and find ways of reducing non-farm costs if they are to seize the market openings that Gatt throws up before rival producers steal a march.

And in farming sectors where the promised export boost is smaller and current problems still pressing, the gains can seem even more remote.

"The average wool-grower's perception is that there's something there of value, but it will probably be dissipated before we get to it," says Mr Charles Armstrong, a New South Wales sheep-farmer and president of the Wool Council of Australia for example.

Mr Eliason thinks that Australian farmers are probably right to be wary.

"While the Uruguay Round improves the unfair trading situation, there's still the test of fair trading," he says, noting that countries like Hungary, East Germany or even the Ukraine could have the potential to become significant players at some stage in the future.

"Gatt's no panacea—it will just compel competitive forces even further."

Papua New Guinea

Government Makes Peace Offer to Navy Officer

BK2807134394 Hong Kong AFP in English 0700 GMT 28 Jul 94

[Text] Port Moresby, July 28 (AFP)—The Papua New Guinea [PNG] Government Thursday made peace overtures to striking naval personnel after a minister warned their strike amounted to a mutiny.

Launched six days ago, the strike involves about 300 naval officers and men and has left patrol boats and other ships idled at a base here.

The men complain that ships are not being properly maintained and that long-standing grievances over allowances and accommodation remain unresolved.

The strike has left 1,200 government troops in the Bougainville island province—wracked by a secessionist revolt since 1989—without seaborne logistic support.

"The whole situation is mutiny and that is why I am concerned ... it has caused panic in the country and the people might think that the whole country is out of control, which is not the case," Defence Minister Paul Tohian said in an interview with THE NATIONAL published Thursday.

Tohian said the strike amounted to "mutiny against the state" and the newspaper reported he warned that mutiny could be punishable by death under PNG law.

A similar strike among air-wing personnel has been settled, but sources said two senior naval officers and a senior pilot remained suspended.

In his interview, Tohian acknowledged there were "major problems in the military" and disclosed that a four senior officials had been told to "thoroughly and critically" analyse the servicemen's concerns.

In a statement Thursday, the minister made peace overtures, acknowledging difficulties facing the force.

"The overwhelming problem ... is funding, we should be honest about that.

"We are hard-pressed because of the load placed on the defence force by the Bougainville crisis which has stretched the budget available for everything from allowances to housing to much-needed spare parts and equipment," he said.

Maintenance of ships and aircraft are million-dollar outlays which had to be balanced against the needs of the nation's education and health services and spending on infrastructure, he added.

The minister's statement got a frosty reception from naval personnel.

"I would have thought the minister would take a more direct approach and address our current problems head-on instead of trying to generalise and water down the whole issue," one officer said.

Late Wednesday, Tohian and defence force commander Brigadier General Robert Dademo had a rowdy meeting with strikers which included demands that the two suspended naval officers be reinstated.

The National quoted naval officers as saying their men had "taken up positions" at the naval base here "just in case someone tries something silly".

Premier Paias Wingti paid a surprise visit to Bougainville on Tuesday.

He was shown in front-page newspaper pictures here being piggy-backed by soldiers through knee-deep water to the beach at Arawa, the battle-scarred provincial capital, while sailors were on strike.

At least 100 troops have been killed in fighting since the start of the secessionist rebellion which is said to have claimed the lives of 2,000 residents of the island.

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